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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF  
**COLONEL RICHARD ANDERSON,**  
*Of Montgomery County, Maryland.*

[ BY A CITIZEN OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND. ]

"Then in the name of God and all these rights,  
Advance your standards, draw your willing swords."—*Shaksp.*

RICHARD ANDERSON was born in Charles county, Maryland, January 16, 1752, and united himself to the continental army as first lieutenant of the seventh regiment of the Maryland line, commanded by the brave Smallwood, a short time prior to the action on the Heights of Harlem, New York, September 15, 1776. An unbroken series of disasters had marked our fortunes: the enemy were in possession of the city, after the calamitous affair of Long Island, on the 26th of the preceding month: our troops dispirited: our resources exhausted: the entire dissolution of the army daily anticipated. Sir William Wallace, in the most gloomy era of his ill-fated country, never encountered greater difficulties than did Washington at this period, and no man can peruse his official letters to Congress of that date, without bowing in unspeakable reverence at the moral sublimity of his character. He says, "In a word, such a cloud of perplexing circumstances appears before me, without one flattering hope, that I am thoroughly convinced,

unless the most vigorous and decisive exertions are immediately adopted to remedy these evils, that the certain and absolute loss of our liberties will be the inevitable consequence." The General, however, resolved on trying the courage of his troops in this action, and his expectations were fully realized: the number of slain and wounded of either army was not great: the Americans lost Colonel Knowlton, of Connecticut, and Major Leitch, of Virginia, who were thus early taken from a scene where their abilities were so continually required to finish the work of independence, for which these gallant officers laid down "their lives and fortunes."

Washington encamped soon after on high broken grounds, his right flank covered by the Brunx; on the west side of which stream, about one mile distant, was posted a detachment under General McDougall; here he watched the movements of his adversary with an eagle-eye, and prepared for the expected conflict. Early in the morning, October 28, the British advanced to the White Plains to attack our troops; their right column commanded by Sir Henry Clinton, the left by Knyphausen and Howe. Our patrols being driven in by their advance, their van appeared about ten o'clock, in full view of the American lines: a cannonade commenced: Howe, determined on possessing the height held by McDougall, ordered a simultaneous attack at different points, by a brigade of Hessians under Colonel Rawle, the second brigade under Leslie, and the Hessian grenadiers under Donop. The attack was vigorous: our militia fled: but the regiments of Smallwood, and Reitzmars, of New York, sustained themselves with much spirit and skill, until overpowered by numbers, they were compelled to retreat. The troops retired to the main army. The loss on both sides was supposed to be nearly equal; that of the Americans was between three and four hundred in killed, wounded, and captured; Colonel Smallwood was among the wounded; Anderson was uninjured, although like his gallant colonel he always sought danger and exposure. Washington continued within his lines, preparing for an attack, which, however, was deferred by the enemy. The whole British army lay on their arms the following night, in order of battle. Howe resolved not to encounter his adversary until his reinforcements arrived, who did not join him until the 30th; and the American chief, changing his position in the night, withdrew to the heights of North Castle, five miles from White Plains. Howe breaking up his camp, marched to Dobbs' ferry, whence he retired slowly down the North river towards King's bridge. Washington, on the 11th November, with part of his army, crossed the Hudson, and joined General Greene at his quarters near Fort Lee. After in vain endeavoring to overcome the disasters of his army, which now crowded in thick array upon him, he was compelled, on the 28th, to commence his celebrated retreat through the Jerseys; which, in skill, firmness, and perseverance, was hardly surpassed by that of Moreau through the black forest of Germany, in eluding the grasp of the Archduke Charles of Austria. The exposures, sufferings, and perils, of our army at this time, the histo-

rian has in vain essayed to record in their real colors. Anderson bore his share like a soldier. He was, however, prevented from participating in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, by being detached from his regiment on particular service.

After enduring the vicissitudes incident to military life, through the spring and summer of '77, it was his good fortune to sustain his reputation for gallantry, in the memorable action at Brandywine, on the 11th September, 1777, the annual recollection of which is entwined in the annals of our country, by the splendid victory of Macdonough on Lake Champlain, in 1814. It was on the morning of that day he first saw the accomplished Lafayette, immediately preceding the battle, riding by the side of Washington, reconnoitring the enemy and preparing our troops for the approaching conflict. His costume was most brilliant and imposing; his person tall and commanding; his virtues unrivalled; his character exalted. He had left his "sweet home," and the fair fields of his enchanting country, to battle for liberty; had crossed the wide ocean under the attractive influence of the star of freedom; and, at this interesting moment, infused into the bosom of Anderson a portion of the lofty spirit of chivalry which animated his own heart. The Americans were arranged in order of battle, to contest the passage of the British over the river at Chad's ford. After much skirmishing, it was not until half after four, P. M., that the enemy advanced in three columns and formed the line of battle. It was a warm contest: the American right first gave way: disorder began: the whole line at length yielded, and a complete rout ensued. The tenth Virginia regiment, commanded by Colonel Stevens, and a Pennsylvania regiment, under Colonel Steuart, covered the retreat, and the approach of night induced Sir William Howe to decline the pursuit. Our army retired to Chester, and the next day to Philadelphia. The loss of the Americans was estimated at three hundred killed, and six hundred wounded: among the latter was Lafayette.

Washington was now involved in pressing difficulties. He, with Congress and the public, was very solicitous to prevent the capture of Philadelphia, which was the avowed object of the British General. He detached Smallwood and Wayne to hang upon his rear, and to harass him by every means in their power. All, however, proved ineffectual; and on the 26th of September, the Metropolis was taken possession of by the British, under command of Lord Cornwallis. Congress re-assembled at Lancaster on the next day. The interval of time, until October 4th, was employed by the American commander in adopting measures to prevent communication between the enemy and their fleet, and in making preparations for a decisive engagement at Germantown. It is not my design to detail the incidents of this action, except so far as the subject of this sketch is concerned. He informed me, in September, 1834, shortly prior to his death, that he then served under Colonel Gunby; that in consequence of the impediments presented by the orchards and the fences surrounding them, it was very diffi-



cult to form the troops; that in leading on a charge against Chew's house, the captain of Anderson's company having shrunk behind a tree, the intrepid colonel, in a loud voice, inquired who commands? The lieutenant instantly replied 'I do,' and led on the attack amidst the raking fire of artillery and musketry; and ere he retreated from the steps of the house, where he fought, Colonel Gunby, Lieutenant Anderson, and another officer, alone remained of their regiment; the rest being slain, wounded, or captured.

On the 15th November, 1777, he was promoted to the rank of captain, in his regiment. His commission bears the signature of the patriotic and learned John Jay, afterwards Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Anderson wore it constantly tied around his neck, in all the subsequent engagements in which he participated, in order that, if taken prisoner, he might experience that treatment from the foe to which his rank entitled him. On the parchment were to be distinctly seen traces of the blood he had shed, when afterwards wounded at Camden and Guilford: a precious relic to his surviving family!

After the unfortunate issue of the battle of Germantown, Washington advanced to White Marsh, fifteen miles from Philadelphia, and in all his movements closely adhered to the Fabian policy—always cautious but ever active: the British, however, retaking possession of Philadelphia, during the fall and winter of 1777 and '78, while our little army, huddled at Valley Forge, endured indescribable sufferings from the want of the necessaries of life. But Smallwood's brigade was detached to Wilmington, to guard that part of the Delaware, and prevent supplies from being forwarded to the city. Anderson thus avoided many trials, which otherwise he would have endured. On the 18th of June, 1778, the enemy evacuated Philadelphia; Washington followed, determined to risk a general action. On the 28th a very severe and obstinate conflict occurred at Monmouth Court House, in which Captain Anderson fought with his accustomed intrepidity, under Colonel John Gunby, of the Eastern shore of Maryland. Lafayette led the van. The united force was commanded by the eccentric, imprudent, but intrepid General Charles Lee, who united great experience to profound genius. He had served on the continent with distinguished éclat; and after resigning his commission in the British army, espoused the cause of America with honest zeal. He had, it is true, been previously captured by a party of dragoons under Colonel Harcourt, in December, '76, and carried away a prisoner to New York; but, having been regularly exchanged, the public confidence was restored; and a fine opportunity was now offered for a successful display of professional talent. Instead of fulfilling the expectations of the army, he was guilty of disobedience of orders, and insulting language to the commander-in-chief, on the field of battle; of which he was afterwards convicted by a court martial, and suspended for one year. He retired in disgust to his farm, near Leetown, Berkley county, Virginia, where for several years he was the victim of hate and ill-feeling to many of the



prominent personages of the day; an infidel, and a scoffer at religion to his last hour; and, finally, died in Philadelphia at an obscure tavern. The last words which broke from his lips were—"Stand by me, my brave grenadiers."

Mortified but not dismayed at the conduct of Lee, the commander-in-chief urged on the contest with unbroken ardor and courage: the battle raged until evening, when both parties separated, with a determination on the part of our chief to renew hostilities at the dawn of day; but his crafty adversary eluded his pursuit by a night march. Two hundred and forty-nine were buried on the field by our army: both parties claimed the victory, and it is almost impossible to decide to whom it really belonged.

The scene of war now changes. The head quarters of our army is at West Point, on the Hudson, then emphatically termed the Gibraltar of America. It is a lofty eminence, surrounded by romantic hills and mountains, where several forts were erected commanding an extensive view of the enchanting river beneath, as it rolls onward its waters to the ocean. The enemy had held possession of the city of New York from the 26th August, 1776, and it was the purpose of Washington, by all the arts and stratagems of war, to dislodge the British from this position, and thereby, with the aid of the fortifications which he already commanded, to establish on the firmest foundations his hopes of future success. Clinton, on the other hand, from similar views and motives, endeavored to obtain the mastery, and thwart the deep-laid plans of his practised and cautious opponent. It was resolved by the American General, that the fort at Stoney Point should be stormed. This is a lofty hill, projecting far into the river, which washes three-fourths of its base; the remainder is covered by a deep marsh, commencing near the river on the upper side, and continuing into it below; over this marsh there is but one crossing-place, but, at its junction with the river is a sandy beach, passable at low tide. On the top of this hill was erected a fort, furnished with heavy ordnance; several breastworks and strong batteries in front of the principal work; and, half way down the hill, were two rows of abatis. In addition to these, several vessels of war were stationed in the river, so as to command the ground at the foot of the hill: the fort was garrisoned with about six hundred men, under the command of Colonel Johnson. On the day preceding the assault, Anderson was sent from West Point to reconnoitre the position, and make report. He approached very near the fort, saw the enemy engaged at their works, made his observations, and returned to West Point on the same evening. At noon of the 15th July, 1779, the party under General Wayne, who was selected for the accomplishment of this hazardous enterprize, commenced their march from Sandy Beach, fourteen miles from Stoney Point; and after passing through an excessively rugged country, arrived, about eight at night, at Spring Steel's, distant one and an half miles from the fort. Here the preparations for an assault were made. The proclamation of Wayne, issued prior to their departure in the morn-

ing, was never surpassed either in ancient or modern warfare, for the fearless intrepidity, and unconquerable patriotism, which animated every sentence. He reminds them of the duty they owed their oppressed country; that the eyes of Congress, of the commander-in-chief, and of the world, were now looking with intense anxiety for the glorious result of the enterprize; and that it should belong to *him* to lead them on to victory. At half past eleven at night the two columns marched on to the charge in perfect order, the van of each with unloaded muskets and fixed bayonets. The stillness of midnight was broken only by the faint murmurs of the river flowing over the rocks, which in this vicinity in some degree interrupt its course. Each column was preceded by a forlorn hope of twenty men, commanded by Lieutenants Gibbon and Knox, whose duty it was to remove obstructions. At twenty minutes past twelve, both columns rushed on under a tremendous fire of musketry and grape shot. They however entered the works at the point of the bayonet, without having discharged a single musket. The humanity of our troops was here conspicuously displayed: the loss of the garrison was inconsiderable: only sixty-three American soldiers and two officers were killed: the prisoners taken were five hundred and forty-three.

Sir Henry Clinton finding it impracticable to accomplish his plans of dislodging the Americans from the highlands and the fortifications on the Hudson, determined to transfer the seat of war to the southern States, where disaffection to the independence of our country, and attachment to the British, then so prevalent, promised sure success to his future operations. To counteract this well-digested scheme, Gates was appointed to the command of our southern army. He had recently gathered, as he supposed, imperishable honors at Saratoga, by the surrender of Burgoyne's army: his name was inscribed high in the temple of fame: his popularity in the army was then unrivalled: his sun was unobscured by a single cloud. Unmindful of the maxim of Napoleon, that "nothing was done while any thing remained to be accomplished," he rested secure on his present lofty eminence, little supposing that relentless adversity would speedily plunge him into the abyss of gloom and dismay. Leaving his farm in Berkley county, he called on his old friend General Lee, residing about three miles distant, and solicited that officer to accompany him to the army. He declined the honor, significantly remarking to Gates, "beware that the laurels of the North are not converted into the willows of the south." How fatally the prediction was verified, history has long since informed us.

Anderson was now on his way, in the summer of 1780, to the Head of Elk; and sailing down the Chesapeake to Annapolis, soon after arrived at Petersburg, in Virginia. The troops marched thence to Rudgeley's Mills, the place of rendezvous, seven miles from Camden, in South Carolina. The seventh Maryland and Delaware regiments were now united, under the celebrated Baron De Kalb, a German of singular eccentricity of character, but an

experienced officer, who served in the war of '56. After it was ended he returned to Europe; but in 1777 revisited America, and received a commission of Major General in our service. He possessed an athletic frame, with excellent health, and was extremely abstemious in his living—reserved in manners—cautious in all his movements—profoundly secret and retired; his character seemed to be shrouded in deep mystery. He was nearly seventy years of age, yet his countenance retained the bloom of youth. Captain Anderson was happy to serve under this brave and accomplished general, who constantly maintained, in the councils which were held, that it would be highly inexpedient to risk an action on the contemplated ground. He was also opposed to the plan of battle.

On the 15th of August, 1780, our army moved from Rudgeley's, and were met early on the morning of the 16th, at the Green Swamp, two miles and an half from Camden. Anderson informed me that the sun rose resplendently; the reflection from the arms of the enemy was dazzling; their elegant dress, their steady and systematic step, their officers elegantly caparisoned; presented a spectacle more enchanting than he had ever beheld. At this crisis, walking along the line of his company, he saw Lawrence Hurdle, who now resides in Montgomery county, Maryland, then a young recruit, leaning his head against a tree, complaining of violent sickness. When solicited by him for permission to retire, the captain drew his sword, and would have plunged it through his body; but recollecting himself, firmly ordered the soldier to take his station and do his duty. He obeyed, fought bravely, and is now on the pension list under the act of Congress of June, 1832. The fire of the enemy's artillery and small arms was very destructive: the raw troops soon gave ground; in vain were efforts made to rally them: several charges were made by the continentals, but could not turn the tide of misfortune: no victory was ever more complete: every corps was broken and dispersed through the woods: about two hundred baggage wagons, military stores, small arms, and all our artillery, fell into the hands of the conquerors. The exact loss in killed and wounded has not been ascertained, but it amounted to several hundreds: the British official accounts estimate our loss at eight or nine hundred killed, and one thousand prisoners; their own killed and wounded at three hundred and twenty-five, of whom two hundred and forty-five were wounded. In this engagement Anderson, while charging the enemy, received a very severe wound in the abdomen, and fell covered with blood. At this moment Colonel Gunby passing by, and recognizing the brave officer who had behaved so nobly at Germantown, ordered two men to put him on his own horse behind, and with this incumbrance, at the head of his regiment, the colonel led on his regiment to another charge. Arriving at the swamp, which was difficult of passage, and believing that he must soon expire, Anderson entreated the gallant colonel not to endanger himself, but to permit him to alight, and then take care of himself. "No;" said the chivalric Gunby; "we die together: my horse is strong and ac-



tive; we will go through the morass, dangerous as it may be, or perish in the attempt." They arrived safely. Two officers received the exhausted captain into their care, with orders from his friend to show him the greatest attention, and to avoid the main road. Calling at a farm house about two miles from the scene of action, they solicited a draught of water for their suffering friend; the reviving cordial was refused by the inhuman tory; one of the officers was in the act of putting him to death, when the brave captain, almost in the last agonies of nature, raised his feeble voice, and bade them spare the victim. Sir Philip Sydney, in his dying moment on the field of battle, was about raising a cup of water to his parched lips, when a wounded soldier looked wishfully at the refreshing draught; without touching a drop he delivered it to him, and then instantly expired. Anderson equalled, if he did not surpass, the illustrious chieftain, in the last act of his life, since he would not allow vengeance to be slaked in the blood of his fellow creature, except on the field of battle. On the 17th he arrived at Charlotte, North Carolina, and soon after joined Gates at Hillsborough. Here his wound gradually healed, from proper medical aid and attention. As he was then young and active, and the love of country still strongly predominant in his bosom, Anderson soon sought and obtained an opportunity of again signaling his valor at Cowpens, on the 17th January, 1781. He was here attached to Colonel Howard's brigade. In "Lee's Campaign of '81," (page 97,) a work of deserved celebrity, the colonel speaks thus: "The enemy were now very near us. Our men commenced a very destructive fire, which they little expected, and a few rounds occasioned great disorder in their ranks. While in this confusion I ordered a charge with the bayonet, which order was obeyed with great alacrity. As the line advanced, I observed their artillery a short distance in front, and called to Captain Ewing, who was near me, to take it. Captain Anderson, (now General Anderson, of Montgomery county, Maryland,) hearing the order, also pushed for the same object; and both being emulous for the prize, kept pace until near the first piece, when Anderson, by placing the end of his espartoon forward into the ground, made a long leap which brought him upon the gun, and gave him the honor of the prize."

In the last interview I ever had with the subject of this memoir, in the fall of 1834, this passage was distinctly read to him, and he declared that the charge there spoken of was not made until he was on the cannon, when he called to Colonel Howard that now was the time, and that the day was ours. He also averred that he transfixed the soldier who was in the act of firing the field piece, and that he could still see him whirling the match in the air; that Major McArthur, of the 71st, was put into his care after the enemy fled; that he reconnoitred our camp at night, amidst the slain who covered the field, and saw one of the American soldiers sleeping composedly by the fire, with the corpse of a Scotch Highlander for his pillow; that he rescued the quartermaster from instant death, at the close of the engagement, by running through the body the

man who was in the act of shooting him; and that he was greatly instrumental in expediting the march of our forces beyond the Catawba, in order that they might escape Cornwallis, now in full pursuit.

On the 15th March, 1781, Anderson fought under his old and tried friend Colonel Gunby, in the well-contested action of Guilford Court-house. At its close, he received a wound which broke his left arm, and was taken off the field on horseback by Colonel Hart. His very dangerous wound was dressed by Dr. Pindall, lately of Hagerstown, Maryland. He was sent to the hospital on the Dan river, at Perkins' Ferry, where he lay in the same room for three or four months with General Stevens, of Culpeper county, Virginia, who was seriously wounded at Camden. Mortification ensued. Dr. Brown, and seven other physicians, recommended amputation; from which he was providentially preserved by the management of Dr. Gilder, who effected a cure. So soon as his strength allowed, he rejoined the army at Charlotte, and was very anxious to have shared their fortunes at the south, but that his wounds forbade the accomplishment of his desires. In the summer of '81, he retired to a farm near Rockville, Montgomery county, Maryland, and for many years was occupied in the pursuits of agriculture. He received from his country no other honors than a commission of Brevet Major, on the 10th October, 1783. This document was signed at Princeton, New Jersey, by Elias Boudinot, president of Congress, who, in his latter days, became the parent of the American Bible Society, to which he bequeathed the sum of ten thousand dollars.

Such is an imperfect outline of an amiable, modest, intrepid, and undaunted soldier of the revolution, whose reigning diffidence of character prevented the author from undertaking this sketch during his lifetime. He was expressly enjoined, by his departed friend, not to publish it until the grave had closed over him forever. This event having occurred in June, 1835, he owed it to the venerable man, to the present age, and to posterity, not to permit a soldier who had spent the prime of his days in establishing and protecting the liberties we enjoy, to pass away from the view of the world, without making an effort to record his heroic deeds. In the decline of life, Colonel Anderson was bereaved of an amiable wife, and of a promising son, who died at Liberia, in aiding the cause of American colonization. Having disposed of his farm, he emigrated to South Carolina, and resided for several years with his eldest son, at Camden. This spot seemed peculiarly dear to him; and, strange as it may appear, he always dwelt on the events of that disastrous day with more interest than any other battle in which he participated. He told me that he often walked over the ground where the two armies contended in 1780; marked out their positions; saw, in his mind's eye, those martial columns, which had arrested his attention so deeply; heard the clangor of arms and the shout of the foe echoing on his ear; and saw his countrymen falling in heaps around.

Cæsar venerated the plains of Pharsalia, where his victorious eagles flapped their wing over the fallen fortunes of Pompey. Napoleon always exulted when he recollected Austerlitz. The eye of Washington beamed with indescribable lustre, when, from the lawns of Mount Vernon, he looked towards the heights of Yorktown, where the star spangled banner waved triumphantly "o'er the land of the free and the home of the brave." The bosom of Blucher heaved with unutterable emotion at the sound of Prussian Eylaw; and the same principle somehow rivetted the affections of Anderson to the plains of Camden.

Rest, gallant soldier, from all thy toils and sorrows! Light be the sod which covers thy war-worn head!! Hallowed be the memory of one who lived for the good of others, and glided from the world without leaving a single enemy behind!!!

"How sleep the brave who sink to rest,  
By all their country's wishes blest."—Collins.

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MILITARY TACTICS, 1835, Vol. I: *Reglement concernant l'exercise et les manœuvres de l'infanterie, de premier Août, 1791*: Paris, 1811: INFANTRY REGULATIONS, 1815: INFANTRY TACTICS, 1825.

We have received the first volume of the "Military Tactics" of 1835, and having by us the *Reglement concernant l'exercise et les manœuvres de l'infanterie, du premier Août, 1791*, as published in Paris, 1811, as well as the old edition of our Military Tactics, that is of 1815 and 1825, we have sat down and made a comparison between them, as far as the new edition goes. We were somewhat surprised to find that the several works are substantially the same. We were aware that the edition of 1815 purported to be drawn from the French, but did not know, before our present examination, that it was nearly a literal translation. We also knew that the edition of 1825 was only an amendment of the previous edition.

When we heard that a new work was forthcoming under a resolution of Congress, we supposed that it was based on a new system of the French,—one that had come into practice since that from which our own was taken. As far as we have gone, however, we find that the new edition is still nothing or little more than the system of 1791. The remaining volumes may have a different character. While the school of the soldier and of the company have undergone little change, it may appear that the



school of the battalion and the evolutions of the line exhibit much alteration and improvement.

In looking back on the edition of 1815, we find that it was rather a cumbrous translation. That of 1825 was probably revised without much reference to the original, and the sense thus became rendered, generally, in a plain and idiomatic style. The new edition no doubt errs in too strict an adherence to the original, giving the language occasionally a syntactical construction quite foreign in its character. Some of the headings, from this cause, are often affected and almost unintelligible. We cannot imagine any sufficient reason for translating the original *titre*, the heading of each chapter, *title*, which, in English, never means what is here intended to be expressed. As used in the original, it is equivalent to chapter, or section, one of which ought to have been adopted. Such eccentricities beget, in the outset, a prejudice against the work, and render its real merits less discernible. Every time the eye fastens on the word *title* as placed in this edition, it is with a feeling that rises against all violations of good taste and common usage.

Many of the remarks we have made may appear to be hypercritical, but we have noted nothing but what we deemed a fault. Our examinations have been made in a spirit of frankness, and with a high respect for the officer whose name stands at the head of the volume. This name justly carries great weight with it in all military matters, and a work to which it is thought proper thus responsibly to prefix it, should have been invulnerable both in matter and in manner. Whether the name so prefixed implies more authorship than belongs to it in this case, we do not wish to believe; but it would doubtless have been well to have indicated in some way that it is, in the main, a translation from the French. This should also have been done in the instances of the other editions.

The first paragraph that struck us as being faulty was

38. Which says "the field officers (Colonels, etc.) are supposed to be mounted, and on actual service shall be on horseback." This might lead one to suppose that *to be mounted*, and *to be on horseback* meant different things. The tautology is unnecessary and inelegant. The old edition has it better. The original is, "le colonel et les deux lieutenant colonels [the major and the chefs de bataillons of a subsequent organization] seront à cheval; les adjutans-majors et adjutans seront à pied." This dismounts the adjutants altogether. It being the intention in our service to have them on foot only during exercise for instruction, the old edition very intelligibly stated that "when the battalion is undergoing elementary instruction," the adjutant "shall be on foot." In the new edition, he is to be on foot at all times "when the battalion is manœuvring." If this mean only during "elementary instruction," the two editions are alike; but a battalion might be manœuvring in the face of an enemy. The proper regulation would probably have been, that the field officers and regimental commissioned staff shall be mounted, excepting during exercise for ele

mentary instruction, when the adjutant will be on foot, and the field officers may be so likewise.

42. This paragraph is not in the original, but was somewhat more at large in the old editions, and contains proper matter for specific regulations. All that part, however, which follows "hence" is rather inexplicit, and might probably as well have been omitted, its meaning being implied in the first sentence of the paragraph.

77. This paragraph, as it is printed, is at first read with an impression that it is defective in grammatical construction. The original is "cette école, qui a pour objet l'instruction des recrues, devant influer d'une manière sensible sur l'instruction des compagnies, dont dépend celle des bataillons et des régimens, doit être établie et surveillée avec grand soin par les officiers supérieurs;" which may be rendered, "this school, which has for its object the instruction of recruits, having a great influence on the instruction of companies, on which depends that of battalions, ought to be established and superintended with the utmost care by the officers."

79, part 3d. The original is, "La troisième comprendra les différens pas, les principes de la marche de front et de flanc, des alignemens, des conversions et des changemens de direction." The change in the precedency of this order of instruction is made to suit the arrangement adopted in the translation; but it is not perceived why *principles* is made applicable to alignment, wheeling, and change of direction, and not to march by front and flank, as the position and recurrence of that word in this paragraph would imply.

84. A *brief tone* is not common nor very intelligible English. "D'un ton ferme et bref" would be more usually rendered *with force and quickness*, or, as the old edition has it, "with a firm, quick tone."

99. While changes were making, it would have been well to have restored the literal translation of the original, tête—à droite; as it is the head which is moved, and not the eyes alone, as one word of command implies.

106. "To cause a resumption of his position," is a turgid translation of the original, "l'instructeur voulant lui faire reprendre," etc.

108. "Will be executed in one *time*, or pause." This is the original, (excepting the *pause*, which is neither French nor English, as, in the latter, we never say *in one pause*,) "en un temps," but it is a foreign idiom which cannot be literally translated with any semblance of grammar or sense. A unit of action no doubt is expressed in French by *un temps*, but *one time* gives no such idea in English. The edition of 1815 translated the phrase "one word and one (or two) motions." This was awkward, and was abandoned in the edition of 1825, which did not attempt to adopt even an equivalent for the original, but stated that such parts of the manual were to be executed as so many distinct motions, that

is, with a pause between each. As it seemed to be necessary to substitute something for the original in this new edition, it might have been said, for example (110) "The full face to the rear will be executed in two motions, or with one pause."

115. "Reckoning from heel to heel, and in *swiftness*," etc. This is a translation of *vitesse*, the original, but is not the word which common usage would have suggested. We never speak of the *swiftness* of a walk or march, *quickness* expressing the full degree of velocity applicable to such a movement. This word appears almost throughout the work, so far as we have examined it, wherever *vitesse* occurs in the original, and is undoubtedly a mistaken strictness of translation.

125. "Parcequ'une troupe ne pouvant, sans se gêner et se découdre, marcher comme si chaque homme étoit isolé, puisqu'il n'en existe deux qui marchent absolument de la même manière," etc. This has not been happily rendered by paragraph 125. More simply translated, it would read, "because a rank cannot, without jostlings and separations, march as each man would walk if he were alone, since no two men walk exactly alike," etc.

127. "Afin d'éviter le balancement du corps et le raccourcissement du pas," etc. The last clause is omitted in the translation. It was retained in the old editions. If putting down the foot with a shock has *not* the effect to shorten the step, the omission is correct: otherwise not. "Inconvenience," in this paragraph, although a literal translation, is a feeble word to express the original. *Disadvantage* would be stronger.

128. "La tête directe." "The face, or *eyes* direct," etc. Why is this alteration introduced? Not, it is presumed, because directing the *eyes* to the front alone would fulfil the purpose. It is worse than an expetive.

133. "Restera dans cette position." This, in the original, closes the two paragraphs 132 and 133, and might have been properly translated both alike, as in the other editions.

134. "Ayant la plus grande attention à maintenir les épaules carrément et la tête directe." The translation of this is unnecessarily diffuse.

143. "Habituating the recruits to maintain the line of the shoulders in a square with the perpendicular," which, in the original, is "de les (the recruits) habituer à maintenir la direction des épaules," and which, simply rendered, would be "habituating them (the recruits) to maintain the direction of the shoulders." This is obviously wanting in precision, but the addition of *square to the front* would have sufficiently supplied the deficiency. "Square with the perpendicular" is too technical for common parlance.

145. "The instructor will frequently *throw* himself ten or twelve paces in front, and faced to the recruit." The original is, "l'instructeur se placera souvent à dix ou douze pas en avant, et face à l'homme de recrue." The word *throw* is here unwarrantably and unnecessarily strong, and *faced*, without the auxiliary *be*, is appa-



rently bad grammar. In the old editions both the sense and expressions were better managed.

152. "These (the defects) the instructor will labor to correct in the lesson without arms, and afterwards, by steady endeavors," etc. The words here, "by steady endeavors," appear either to be misplaced or redundant. The original is, "l'instructeur doit s'efforcer de corriger, autant que possible, ces défauts, avant de faire porter l'arme au soldat, et doit avoir ensuite une attention suivie à régler le port d'armes," etc., and may be rendered, "the instructor will endeavor to correct, as far as possible, these defects, before putting arms into the hands of the soldier, and will continue thereafter to observe with great care the influence they may have on his mode of carrying them," etc. The old editions were more explicit in this respect than the new; the second, in point of phraseology, improving on the first.

153. This paragraph at first strikes one as false syntax. The original is, "il observera que les hommes de recrue sont sujets à déranger la position du corps lorsqu'ils commencent à porter l'arme, et surtout à renverser les épaules; ce qui fait l'arme manquant de point d'appui, ils descendent la main gauche pour empêcher que l'arme ne tombe, baissent l'épaule gauche, creusent le flanc, ouvrent les coudes afin de reprendre l'équilibre," etc. Those who refer to either of the old translations, will find the meaning of this paragraph of the original much more correctly and easily rendered than it now stands. It is singular that they should have been rejected, and one so slovenly taken up. We would render the original thus: "He will observe that the recruits are liable, when first put under arms, to derange the position of the body, and particularly to distort the shoulders; which causes the arms to lose their point of support, the left hand to sink in order to prevent them from falling, the left shoulder to sink also, the side to curve in, the elbows to open in order to restore the equilibrium," etc.

"Manual of arms." This is a true translation of the original, *maniemment des armes*, and very properly adopted into phraseology. The *manual exercise*, as we have generally termed it, was deficient in meaning.

159, 160, and 161. Do not appear in the original, nor were they in the two other editions. But they contain hints well introduced, excepting perhaps the attempt to regulate, with such minute nicety, the time—a "ninetieth part of a minute"—in which the motions are to be performed.

162. "The last syllable of the command will decide the brisk execution," etc. It would be difficult, without a reference to the original, to decide what is meant here. "La dernière syllabe du commandement décidera l'exécution brusque et vive," etc. The old editions say, "at the last syllable of the command, the recruit will execute the first motion smartly." This undoubtedly renders the idea plainly.

164, 165. Both these paragraphs are better rendered in the old edition, excepting as to the position of the left hand in 165, which

is more precisely described in the new edition than in either the old or the original. Whether the hand should be *flat*, or otherwise, is left to inference by them.

171. "The right hand to the small." This is an unusual and unnecessary ellipsis of expression. *The small* is not, we believe, a technical abbreviation. "La poignée de l'arme" is the small of the stock, or, as it is sometimes termed, the handle.

175. Two things are omitted in this paragraph which are found in the original, and in the old editions, viz. "le chien à hauteur du dernier bouton de la veste," and "rester face en tête." It may have been determined, for good reasons, that it was unnecessary to fix precisely the height at which the lock should be held, or that the coat or vest button was not sufficiently invariable to form a good horizontal line; and that the necessity "to remain fronted," as the old edition translates the last phrase, need not be pointed out. One thing, however, is certain, that, on this subject, no minutiae can be regarded as superfluous.

194. "Et la porter tout de suite entre les dents." This might have been, very properly, fully translated.

202. The original says "le bras tendu, les yeux en l'air," etc., which is translated literally in both the old editions, while, in the new, the eyes are to be "fixed on the muzzle." Whether this change be judicious, can be determined but by experiment with the musket, to see if the eyes, when the hand holds the ramrod in readiness to *ram cartridge*, be naturally directed upwards, that is, towards the hand, or the muzzle. We should be inclined to think the hand is the object.

205. "Return rammer." The original and the old editions divide this into *two* motions. The new edition into *three*. Practice will decide whether this be an improvement. It will probably give uniformity in the *turn* of the ramrod, each one being accustomed by this pause at the moment preceding the turn to perform it in concert.

208. The directions in this paragraph are somewhat amplified, compared with the original and the old editions, "the forearm touching the piece," and "the forefinger touching the cock, and the thumb on the counter-plate," not being found in them. If they render certain what may have heretofore been doubtful, the addition was required. Both clauses would seem to supply an obvious defect.

211. In the original and the old editions, the first motion of *ready* is the same as the first motion of *load*, and the whole is divided into *three* motions; while the new edition divides it into *four* motions. There is undoubtedly a gain of precision in the manual of arms in proportion as its parts are subdivided in the drill. In the present case, however, that gain is perhaps more than counterbalanced by rendering two motions dissimilar, which have heretofore been alike, and the learning of one of which was the learning of both.

In the original and the old editions, the left hand, at the last motion of *ready*, is not supposed to be in the proper place for the first motion of *aim*, and is therefore, at this last motion, directed to "glisser vivement," or to be slipped briskly along the barrel to the tail-band. In the new edition it is placed at the tail-band in the last motion of *ready*, and is not, therefore, to be moved at the next word of command. This may be found in practice an improvement. There should be some certainty of this to compensate for the change.

"Unfix bayonet." In the original and the old editions, this part of the manual included the shouldering of the arms at the last motion. The new edition makes the latter a distinct part of the manual. This is undoubtedly an improvement, as the arms, according to the old mode, were likely to come to the shoulder at unequal times.

"To the right shoulder shift arms." This is neither in the original nor in the old editions, and seems to be entirely new. It is not *arms at will*, because the mode of carrying them is defined with the same precision as in other parts of the manual of arms. Any change in their position is a relief to the soldier, but it may be questioned whether *arms at will* did not fulfil every purpose intended by this innovation. Moreover, the word of command is inconveniently long, and the most awkward perhaps in the book.

"Inspection of arms." The division of this act into *three* parts is an improvement on the original and old editions, which make it one motion, seldom performed with uniformity.

262. This is rather a paraphrase of the original than a translation. "Le maniement des armes déforme souvent, chez les hommes de recrue, la position du corps, quand elle n'est pas encore parfaitement assurée ; il est donc nécessaire que l'instructeur le ramène souvent à la régularité de la position et du port d'armes dans le cours des leçons." The old editions were awkward translations, particularly the first. If the "elementary principles," mentioned in the new edition, allude only to position and the mode of carrying the arms, it would have been more explicit to have followed the original.

"To load in four times." The original is, "charge précipitée," *to load in quick time*. This should have been the heading, as it would have been intelligible, expressive and idiomatic.

268. "Charge cartridge, shake it and force it in," is a literal translation of the original, viz. "mettre la cartouche dans le canon, la secouer et l'enfoncer," excepting the word *charge*, which, according to the use we make of it in this sense, including all the rest, makes the "shake it and force it" appear tautological. The caution to shake and force the cartridge into the barrel is not unnecessary, therefore, while the oldest edition was too diffuse, the next was too brief. If the new edition had substituted *insert* for *charge*, the seeming repetition would have been avoided, and the fullness of the original retained.



"Load at will." "Charge à volonté." This word of command is expressive, and judiciously adopted.

272. This paragraph does not fully render the original. "L'instructeur observera que les soldats qui, sans se presser en apparence, chargent avec calme et sang froid, sont ceux qui chargent le mieux et le plus promptement," etc. The old editions have it literally and correctly rendered.

288. "Joinery" is a correct translation of *emboîtement*, but does not give an intelligible idea or illustration. Its explanatory sequent would have done better alone. Mechanism has a technical application of wide extent. To use a word in explanation, which requires explanation itself, is not according to rule.

303. This paragraph evidently begins imperfectly. The original is, "lorsqu'on exécutera les feux à poudre, on recommandera aux soldats d'être attentifs à observer, en mettant le chien au repos, si la fumée sort par la lumière," etc. The oldest edition has a cumbersome, and the next edition not a very good, translation of this paragraph, and the new edition has not much amended it. We would render it—"when the firings are made with cartridges, it will be enjoined on the soldiers to observe particularly, when half-cocking, whether smoke issue from the touch-hole,—a sure indication," etc.

"Mark time." While correcting some of the phraseology of the old editions, we regret that a literal translation of the original, viz. *marquez le pas*, *mark step*, had not been adopted.

307. The concluding caution of the original, "en observant la cadence du pas," which is in the old editions, is omitted in this paragraph. Is it to be inferred that the cadence of the step is not to be observed?

There is in this paragraph an instance of peculiar phraseology, which frequently occurs thereafter. In referring to the *feet* of the men on drill, the phrase is, *a foot*, instead, as it naturally would be, *the foot*. The indefinite article is probably used in these cases to avoid too much repetition of the definite; but, repetition is preferable to singularity or solecism. In speaking of many feet coming to the ground, we are allowed to say *the foot*, thereby fully expressing the aggregate number; but, when we say *a foot*, all plural idea is excluded.

312. There is a change in this paragraph from the original and the old editions in the order in which the parts of the following lesson are enumerated, and consequently a change in the order in which they are taught. *Alignment* in the new edition has the precedence, while in the original and the old editions it is the last in order. This new arrangement appears to be the most natural and proper, as some aptitude in dressing would seem to be requisite in those who undertake to march.

318. "Without groping" is a literal translation of "sans tâtonner;" in English, however, we never use the word *grobe* but in connexion with the absence of light, excepting occasionally in a figurative sense. No one would describe the movement of an awkward, inexperienced recruit as being groping. *Without hesitation—without*

*warning*, would have been more common and more intelligible, and were equally authorized by the original.

325. The original of this is, "parceque la precipitation est contraire au bon ordre et meme à la promptitude dans l'exécution, qu'on n'obtient qu'en habituant le soldat à faire tous les mouvemens avec calm, sang-froid et precision." The translations of this paragraph have varied through the three editions, but in both the two first, particularly the second, the sense is fully rendered. In the new edition *calmness and precision* are made to refer to *promptitude of execution* only, while in the original it refers to *good order* likewise, as it undoubtedly should, they being equally productive of both.

327. "Draw after it a shoulder," etc. The use of the indefinite article here in connexion with shoulder is equally objectionable as in the case of, "a foot." It is neither warranted by the original nor by usage.

328. The original of this is, "parceque si un soldat dépassoit l'alignement, il seroit ensuite obligé de reculer pour se placer sur le véritable ligne; sa faute se propageroit aux hommes qui sont au delà, lesquels seroient obligés de reculer à leurtour, ce qu'il faut éviter avec d'autant plus de soin, qu'outre la perte de temps qui en résulteroit, il est plus difficile de s'aligner en arrière qu'en avant." This paragraph is rendered into English with some difficulty; but the second edition has the sense more correctly and fully than the new edition, and might have been properly copied, substituting *pass* for *passed*.

332. This is not in the original, but is well introduced in the new edition.

339. "Recover by insensible degrees the slight touch of the elbows, if lost;" which, in the original is, "ne rejoindre qu'insensiblement le coude de son voisin du côté du guide, s'il venoit à s'éloigner, ou si l'on étoit soi-même écarté." This is well compressed and expressed in the translation, excepting the omission of "du côté du guide." This ought undoubtedly to have been embraced, as no room should be left for supposing that the other side was included.

The phrase in the original of this paragraph and of 328, "se propageroit," is better rendered in the old edition than in the new, as it is not customary in English to say, *propagate* a fault.

340. The direction in the original and in the old editions, to keep "the eyes cast on the ground twelve or fifteen paces in front" in marching, is omitted in the new edition. If such a direction of the eyes be unnecessary, the omission is correct, as nothing redundant should be inserted, but, from Stuben downwards, it has been enumerated among the points of instruction.

355. "L'impulsion du pas accéléré" is literally and correctly translated by "the impulsion of the quick;" but *impulsion* is not a word for familiar teaching. The paragraph in the old edition is preferable throughout.

360. "Squad, by the right (or left) flank." This precautionary

word of command is according to the original, but was omitted in both the old editions. If such abbreviation has been found in practice without injury, the original should not have been revived. It is worse than useless to lengthen words of command unnecessarily. In the same word of command *squad* is repeated in the new edition without any authority from the original, and without even a shadow of propriety or necessity.

366. The original of this is, "qu'à chaque pas le pied de l'homme qui précède soit remplacé par celui de l'homme qui le suit." This was translated in the first edition rather awkwardly, but nearly literally. In the next edition, the general terms were abandoned, and particulars introduced, which have been adopted in the new edition. The direction contained in the original, viz. *that, at each step, the foot of the man who precedes shall be replaced by that of the man who follows*, is perfectly simple, while that contained in the paragraph of the new edition can be understood only by a practical illustration. In reviewing the first edition, it must have been perceived that the requisition there was impracticable, as the man who follows cannot "plant his foot on the spot from whence the man in front of him has raised his foot;" the modification, therefore, found in the next edition was probably made. But the original did not mean that the follower trod in the foot-print of the leader; but that, as the latter raised his foot, the former should do the same, and reach the ground immediately behind the heel of the latter. This is the true arrangement of the lock-step.

367. A literal translation of the original would have rendered the parenthesis used in the new edition unnecessary.

368. The original of this paragraph which was most awkwardly translated in the first edition, was omitted in the second. The translation in the new edition is too elliptical. Literally rendered, the sense would be, "that the head of the man who immediately precedes each soldier, shall conceal from him the heads of all others who are before him."

370. The new edition alters the arrangement of the original, by making the *halt* precede the *change of direction*. This is no doubt the proper order of instruction, accustoming the recruit to halt and form with precision, before he is put to the changes of direction.

371. "Budge" is a translation of "bouger;" but is, in English, a low word, and might have had many fitting substitutes.

383. This is more explicit than either the original or the old editions. But there is much difference in the three works as to the length of the pivot-man's step, the original requiring only six inches, the old editions seven, and the new "nine and one-third." The last certainly looks like close calculation of the necessities of the case.

409. "To stack arms." That part of the manual of arms in the original which prescribes the mode of *grounding arms* being very properly omitted, it became necessary to substitute some other mode by which the soldier could be temporarily relieved from his arms while on parade. *Stacking arms* ("pile arms" in the old



edition) is the substitute. We are pleased to see the old term of *stack* revived, *pile* always sounding as a misnomer.

419. Directing the company to fall in "faced to the right" is an improvement on the old editions. *Ranking and sizing* a company is not found in the original—a strange defect.

421. In bringing the company to the front after having been sized, the alignment required in the old edition is judiciously omitted, as consuming time uselessly. *Counting off* is likewise omitted, perhaps not so judiciously. If, however, it shall be found in practice that the movement can be correctly performed without the jabber of a count, it will certainly be an improvement.

In lesson sixth, school of company, the second and third articles are transposed from their arrangement in the original and the old editions, perhaps for good reasons.

453. "To the rear open order." As the word of command in the old edition was, very properly, to be superseded, it would have been well to have restored the original entirely. To the rear, *open ranks*, would have been the natural word of command in the case, unless, where there should be only one rank to move, (as in two-rank order) the singular should be substituted for the plural.

454. "In the back step" is not idiomatic. *By* or *with* would have been the preferable preposition.

510. This paragraph is not in the original, excepting substantially in the remarks on *firing at will*, as they appear in 496.

511. "Face by the rear rank." The original is, "feux en arrière," or *fire to the rear*, as the old edition has it. This new word of command is almost unintelligible, and not made the less so by the note appended. To face *by* a rank is a solecism. The company is brought to the "about face" in order to fire to the rear, and the original and old editions express this purpose simply and fully.

534. "To the — step"—"au pas." This is an improvement on the old edition.

543. This paragraph contains two directions in addition to the original, but which were probably implied, had they not been expressed. But it has a new phrase, viz. "Captain, rectify the alignment," *captain* being in neither the original nor in the old editions. Companies are often drilled by the captain, with one of his subalterns as "chef de peloton," or nominal captain, and sometimes a non-commissioned officer. The prefix seems to have been altogether unnecessary, and may often have to be applied when it would be unmilitary and absurd.

550. "Pendant la marche" is affectedly translated by "pending the march."

572. The word of command here given is translated in all its length from the original, with the addition of *company* repeated. The old editions judiciously left out the words "by the right flank," and of course introduced the word *company* only once.

638. We should doubt the propriety or expediency of the latitude given in the new edition to chiefs of subdivisions to explain,

even in an under tone, what the subdivisions have to execute. The original and the old editions merely allow a repetition of such words of command as appear not to have been distinctly heard.

654. The phrases which occur in this paragraph of "less one" and "less the front," etc. although literal translations of "moins un" and "moins le front," etc., are not idiomatic. The oldest edition says "less *by* one," which is better, and perhaps the best translation the original admits.

It will be remarked that when movements are made both to the right and to the left, the new edition, departing from the arrangement of the original, describes only such parts of the corresponding movement as marks the difference between them; thereby avoiding much useless repetition.

680. By the new edition—unlike the original and old editions—the second platoon, in breaking into company, does not take its cue for the oblique movement from the instructor, but waits for the word of command from the chief of platoon—"right oblique—march." This doubtless insures greater precision, as the platoon, without such a secondary hint, may not uniformly determine on the same moment for the oblique movement.

"Diminishing by files." The original has a long explanatory paragraph on the manner of breaking off files from both flanks at the same time, by a formation *en potence*. This is in none of the translations, and was no doubt omitted for good reasons.

721. By this paragraph the men, on taking the "route step," are permitted to carry their "arms at will," without waiting for that particular word of command. This is an improvement on the original and the old editions.

723. In the original, and in the old editions, the word of command, "serrez vos rangs," or "close order, march," includes the motion of *shoulder arms*; but in the new edition "the instructor will first cause the arms to be shouldered." We do not see the reasons which suggested this change. The word of command here given, viz. "close order, march," is an improvement on the old edition; but we wish that the improvement had gone farther, by making the translation literal. *Open ranks*, and *close ranks*, have a direct meaning, as all words of command, as far as is practicable, should have.

743. "Countermarch." In the new edition, at the third word of command, that is, "right face," "three or two files—break to the rear." In the original and old editions these files do not break until the word "march." This is probably an improvement.

The original, in remarking on the exercises of the school of the company, permits the men, when at shoulder arms, to relieve themselves, whenever they choose, by placing the right hand on the handle of the musket. If this be permitted in our service, it ought to have been specified.

"Instruction for target firing" is less full in the new edition than in the original or the old editions; perhaps in the expectation of the "detailed instructions" on the subject, which are to come

from the War Department. In the first sentence reference is made to the second and third *distances* at which the firings are to be made, while none are specified, as in the original and the old editions.

"Manual of arms for sergeants." The height at which the arms shall be brought at the first motion of "present arms" is not stated in the new edition, as in the original. But neither the original nor the old editions prescribe a mode for the sergeants to fix and unfix bayonets; nor for the "charge bayonet" of the corporals of the color guard. The new edition supplies these deficiencies.

The original has no "arms-port," and the new edition has so far altered the old in this respect, as to introduce it only in the exercise appropriate for relieving sentinels.

"Manual of the sword or sabre for officers." The new edition has curtailed the instructions under this head as they appear both in the original and the old editions, and would seem to be deficient in proportion to these curtailments. All that has heretofore been prescribed has been approved, so far as we have heard, by experience. The necessity of carrying the sword invariably in the *only* position prescribed, is an exaction as severe as it is useless.

The "instruction for the corporal of pioneers" is not in the original.

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#### DRAGOON EXPEDITION---INDIAN TALK.

On the 9th March, 1835, an order was issued from the Head Quarters of the Army, directing the summer campaign of the regiment of dragoons; which was divided for the purpose into three detachments—one under the command of Colonel Dodge, another under Lieutenant Colonel Kearny, and the third under Major Mason. The three companies under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Kearny, were ordered to proceed up the river Des Moines, to the Racoon fork, there halt, and reconnoitre the position, with a view to the selection of a site for the establishment of a military post in that vicinity: on which subject Lieutenant Colonel Kearny was directed to report on his return to his winter quarters at Fort Des Moines. After having made this reconnoissance, Lieutenant Colonel Kearny was instructed to proceed with his command to the Sioux villages near the highlands on the Mississippi, about the 44° of north latitude: thence taking a direction to the westward, return to his original position at the mouth of the Des Moines, passing by the right bank of that river.

This detachment returned to Fort Des Moines on the 19th August, and on the 14th September, Lieutenant Colonel Kearny made a report to the War Department, from which the following is an extract:

"In compliance with General Order number 12, present series, I left here on the 7th June, in command of companies B, H and I, United States dragoons, (five officers and one hundred and forty-



six rank and file strong,) having eight Sauk Indians with me. Our first object being to halt at the mouth of *Racoon*, we kept on the land that divides the Des Moines and Skunk rivers, encamping each day on the waters of the one or the other, as we found most convenient. I depended upon these Indians as guides, having been led to believe that they were acquainted with this part of their own country; but I was convinced to the contrary, when, on the 21st June, they telling me we were two days' march below the *Racoon*, we crossed from the Skunk to the Des Moines, and early the following morning found ourselves fifty miles above it, and on the *north fork* of the latter river. Deeming it unnecessary to go back that far, I determined to leave visiting the mouth of the *Racoon* until my return, and we proceeded on our march, passing round the head of Skunk, crossing the lower and upper Iowa and their tributaries—Root river and some smaller streams—and on the 8th July reached Warbshaw's village on the Mississippi, in about 44° north latitude. Our course from Fort Des Moines to the north fork of the Des Moines river was northwest, and distance one hundred and ninety miles; from the north fork to Warbshaw's village was northeast, and distance two hundred and thirty miles; making four hundred and twenty miles which we had travelled from our post. Our march had been very much retarded by the extreme wet weather at the commencement of it, deluging the whole country, and rendering it impossible for us at times to make more than five or six miles per day.

"On our arrival at *Warbshaw's* village, he and his band were absent. I waited for their return, which was on the 16th July, and on the 19th and 20th they came to our camp, and met me and the Sauks in council. I enclose a copy of the proceedings of both days. On the 21st July we started on our return, taking a west course, which in about one hundred and twenty miles brought us within about sixty-five from Fort Snelling; and falling in with a party of Sioux from several different towns on the Saint Peters, they told us we were on the waters of that river. These Sioux formed a part of about two hundred warriors who had gone down in a body from the Saint Peters to the north fork of the Des Moines, when seeing our trail, they probably thought most advisable to break into three parties, and return; they deserted their camp, when they first saw us, and we had some little difficulty in getting them to us, and in quieting their suspicions against us. They shook hands and smoked with the Sauks, and said that as there were men amongst them from different parts of the Sioux country, the news would fly in a few days throughout the nation, and like the other Sioux whom I had met, appeared anxious for a permanent peace with the Sauk and Fox Indians. On the 2d August we crossed the right hand fork, (thirty-five miles from its mouth, and about two hundred miles west from Warbshaw's village,) and on the 3d the left hand fork, or main Des Moines, when changing our course from west to south, we on the 8th reached the mouth of the *Racoon*, where I halted to reconnoitre

the country, 'with a view to the selection of a site for a military post in that vicinity,' as directed by you.

"After riding over a considerable portion of the country myself, and sending officers in different directions, with a view to the same object, I could neither see nor hear of any place that possessed the necessary advantages, or in my opinion was suitable for the establishment of a military post. The point of land in the fork, at the junction of the *Racoon* with the *Des Moines*, would probably answer as well as any other place in that vicinity: it is about eight feet above high water mark; a narrow slip of prairie commences there, but widens out, as the two rivers recede. On the opposite side of the *Des Moines*, which is there about three hundred and sixty feet wide and three and a half feet deep, being a good ford, is a great abundance of timber, oak, walnut, elm, ash, linn, and cotton wood, which would answer for building and fire wood. We saw no springs near the place; wells however could be dug. About a mile up the *Des Moines* is a bluff containing stone coal, and a small quantity of siliceous limestone, but apparently not enough for the necessary chimneys of a small post, nor do I believe it can be burned into lime. If a post should be established there, I think stone and lime must be brought to it from near the mouth of the north fork, a distance by land of about forty-five miles, and sixty miles by water. It is by land one hundred and fifty miles from Fort *Des Moines*, and two hundred and sixty-six miles by water to the mouth of the *Des Moines* river. I caused a canal to be made, in which Lieutenant *Lea*, with a few soldiers, descended the *Des Moines* to its mouth, to examine the practicability of navigating it, and the means by which supplies could be obtained there. I send you the report. Unless some obstructions are removed, the navigation of the *Des Moines* to the *Racoon*, by boats sufficiently large to carry stores, etc., for a military post, I am convinced will be at all times uncertain, and but a very small portion of the year practicable.

"Lieutenant *Lea* thinks there are positions near the mouth of *Cedar*, (ninety-six miles by water below the *Racoon*,) offering more advantages for a military post, such as springs, limestone, and less difficulty in navigating rivers, than any we saw above."

*The following is Lieutenant Lea's report to Lieut. Col. Kearny:*

SIR: In compliance with your order of 9th August last, I descended the *Des Moines* river from the *Racoon* fork to the mouth, and have the honor to make the following report on its susceptibility of navigation.

The general course of the *Des Moines* is southeast, and its length from the *Racoon* to the mouth is about two hundred and sixty-six miles. The *Racoon* river is its chief tributary, affording two-thirds as much water as the main river itself. Below the junction the river varies from one hundred to eighty yards in width, and in depth at low water, from eleven inches to four feet; fre-

quent rocky bars divide it into a succession of rapids and eddies; it is also obstructed by numerous bars of loose white sand, changeable by every rise of water; many snags, projecting rocks, render it dangerous to boats in rapid motion; and its bends are often so sudden as to render it difficult for descending boats to clear them. This is its character until it receives the Cedar river, which increases its volume of water by about one-third. It is ninety-six miles from the Racoon to the Cedar; and in this distance there are nineteen places affording a channel not more than fourteen inches deep, excluding a very rough, rocky rapid, dangerous even in high water.

Below Cedar river it becomes much wider, being usually about one hundred and sixty yards wide as far as Keokuk's village, a distance of eighty miles; the bends also are less sudden, and scarce a snag is visible, but the general depth is less; twenty-two places in this distance do not afford a depth of more than fourteen inches, and a great part of it did not admit the free passage of a canoe, requiring a depth of only twelve inches. Several rocky rapids occur on this part of the river, none however opposing any serious obstacle in high water, except the one just below Opanoosi's village, where there is a sudden fall of thirteen inches.

Below Keokuk's village it increases in width to two hundred or two hundred and twenty-five yards; its course is remarkably free from sudden bends; the current is regular, at about two miles per hour in low water; the depth is very uniform, and is seldom under fifteen inches; the bottom is a smooth blue limestone, sometimes covered with sand and fine gravel, and not a single extraneous obstruction presents itself, save a few loose rocks at one place, until within eleven miles of the mouth. The far-famed "Rapids of the Des Moines" are near the lower end of the great bend. About ten miles north of the Missouri State line, there is here a fall of eleven inches in one hundred yards; but by the removal of a few loose rocks, a good channel may be had.

About eleven miles above the mouth, the influence of the Mississippi begins to be felt. The river becomes much narrower, being reduced in width to eighty or one hundred yards. The channel becomes crooked, the banks frequently caving in, and snags are abundant; but there is sufficient water wherever there are snags. For ten miles the river is thick set with snags, but they would admit the passage of large boats in daylight, and this part of the river can never be navigated by night. The backwater from the Mississippi causes frequent collections of drift wood, and renders this part of the river very liable to change its bed, as it has recently done to a great extent. It empties into the Mississippi by four outlets: the first is a narrow slough, three-quarters of a mile long, deep and entirely filled with logs and snags; one mile lower down, two other sloughs put out near together, very short; and half a mile further, the main river is lost in the Mississippi.

Between the mouths of Racoon and Cedar rivers, the shores are generally rough and broken, being usually formed by hills jut-



ting into the river on alternate sides: sometimes, however, alluvial formations occur, where logs may be seen projecting from a bank, bearing the largest forest trees. There is much timber on this part of the river, and of excellent quality, including oak, ash, walnut, elm, maple, linn, and cotton wood. From the Cedar to Keokuk's village, the country is almost destitute of timber, except narrow skirts on the banks of the river and of the creeks; but nothing can exceed the richness and beauty of the prairies, gradually rising as they recede from the river, and occasionally crowned by a grove of neat-looking oaks, free from all inferior growth. Below Keokuk's village the shores present alternate hills and bottoms, both covered with vigorous trees, standing erect and unmolested by the washing of the current; as the river is straight, its entire bed is formed of fixed rock. These bottoms are high, level, and luxuriant, very inviting to emigrants, as evinced by the number that have recently thrust themselves upon them.

The mineral productions of the river are interesting. Sandstone suitable for building, is abundant as far down as Tollman's, fourteen miles above the mouth; limestone highly silicious, occurs near Racoon river; metalliferous limerock shows itself on a level with low water, fifteen miles above the Cedar, and gradually but slowly rises until it reaches four and a half or five feet above the water, near the Missouri line, where it is supported by a bluish limestone, forming a smooth bed for the river. No stone suitable for making lime is to be found above Tollman's. Bituminous coal of excellent quality occurs abundantly above Cedar; and I also found large masses of rich iron ore, sulphurite and native sulphate of iron, lignite and the earths usually found in coal formations.

As to the practical navigation of the river, I must necessarily have recourse to the statements of others. I was fortunate enough to meet with two gentlemen, well acquainted with the river, upon whose knowledge and veracity I can rely; and I also met a keel-boat ascending the river.

Several snags and logs near the mouth of the river, and a few loose rocks at various rapids, must be removed, to admit of any safe navigation, and to admit the passage of boats at low water. This might be done at an expense of five hundred dollars. These obstructions removed, there is nothing to interrupt the navigation as far up as the mouth of Cedar, but the want of depth of channel.

The average annual rise of the river in this part is about eight feet, which would give an entire depth on the shoals of about five and a half feet. These freshets are of short duration, and give impetuous currents. There are usually two annual freshets: the first and by far the greatest, takes place at the melting of the snows in the spring; the second is produced by the autumnal rains in the humid regions about the sources of the river. During the winter the river is obstructed by the ice; in the summer, and early autumn, the water is very shallow.

I met, on 15th August, above Keokuk's village, a keel-boat, built to carry eighteen tons, but having only nine tons on board, draw-

ing sixteen inches water, and well manned; she had consumed twelve and a half days in coming from the mouth, a distance of eighty-eight miles. At the same rate, seven miles per day, it would require twenty-four days to reach the Cedar, and thirty-eight days to reach the Racoon river.

The following is a succinct statement of the classes of boats that may be best employed on the river, as far up as the mouth of Cedar, and the time that they may be so employed, from the best information that I can get, and I believe it may be relied on. The times given are of course only approximations.

1. Steamboats drawing three and a half feet, from 1st April to 15th June.
2. Steamboats or keel-boats, drawing two and a half feet, from 20th March to 1st July.
3. Keel-boats, drawing twenty inches, from 15th March to 15th July, and from 15th October to 25th November.

Of that part of the river between Cedar and Racoon, I can only say that it affords a greater depth of channel than the river below, and that I believe that steamboats of eighty tons may run it with less risk than keel-boats, though both would be somewhat endangered in descending.

A sketch of the river is given in the general map of our summer's campaign.

Allow me to remark, in conclusion, that the Des Moines is the most beautiful stream that I have ever traversed, and that it is destined soon to become the outlet of great mineral and agricultural wealth. The country is now open to settlers, for seventy-six miles up the river, and numerous boats will soon be put in requisition to supply the wants of the rapidly growing population.

About three miles below the Racoon, there is a position that may serve as a site for a garrison. A series of hills rise gently from the river, on the right hand, and stretch back into the country; they are covered with a slight growth of scrub oak only, but good timber is to be found within a mile or two. A fine spring breaks out from between two of these hills, forty feet above high water, and another runs out of the bank, about three feet above low water. There is a good and convenient landing for boats, and a rich prairie stretches out from the foot of these highlands. This prairie does not afford good grass, but there are probably others within convenient distance, that would supply the garrison with hay.

There is another locality about nine miles, and a third fifteen miles, below the Racoon, either of which might serve as a site. They are both more handsome than the first, as seen from the river, and they both have timber and good prairie convenient; but I saw no springs near them. The position at the mouth of Cedar, however, is the most beautiful, convenient, and healthy on the river.

*Extract from an Indian talk, at Dragoon Camp, near Warbshaw's village, Upper Mississippi, Sunday,*

*19th July, 1835.*

WARBASHAW, accompanied by thirty or forty inferior chiefs and warriors, and by many squaws and children, amounting in all to about a hundred and ten persons, crossed from the island on which they were encamped and met the deputation of Sac Indians in council before the colonel's tent, at about nine o'clock in the morning. Old Warbshaw has long been at the head of the Dacotha band of Sioux, and has been distinguished rather for his good sense, his integrity, his friendship for the whites, and his devotion to the best interests of his people, than for warlike feats. He is a little shrivelled octogenarian, and not an unfit representative of his band, once so spirited and powerful, now so poor and powerless.

The delegation of Sacs is composed of five young men, of good standing in their nation, but holding no especial rank; at the head of these is WACOMMEE, a man of good sense and dignified bearing.

Labuiseer, Monassa, a Fox, and an Israelitish looking Sioux are the interpreters.

As the colonel sat in the door of his tent, the officers, the Sacs, and the Sioux, formed a circle around, outside of which were collected squaws and children, and nearly the whole command.

He thus addressed them :

" *Warbshaw and Sioux!* I am glad to meet you here to day : your great father has sent me here with these soldiers to visit you and shake hands with you. We have come a long way, from near the mouth of the Des Moines river, where we live : your great father has sent us here to meet you as friends : he has heard of this chief, and knows him well : for Warbshaw's fame is like the eagle : it soars far and high.

" I have brought with me a few Sacs who wish to make peace with the Sioux : they will speak for themselves. Your great father wishes these Sacs and the Sioux to be at peace : the Great Spirit wishes it ; the sun is now shining above us and the Great Spirit is smiling upon the council. There is no doubt that the chiefs and head men of the Sacs wish to make a lasting peace with the Sioux : but there are among them, as among all other Indians, some young men who are fools.

" It is better for all that you should be at peace : I advise you to shake hands together, and be hereafter good friends, as you were in times past, when the Sacs and the Sioux lived together as friends, and were happy."

After a long pause, WACOMMEE, the principal Sac, rose and shook hands with most of the circle, especially with the friends of a Sioux lately murdered : he then said :



"*Warbashaw!* I am glad to see you and to see you well. I hope what we say may do good: you have heard the speech of the chief of the white men: he speaks truth: it is the desire of our chiefs to make a peace with the Sioux, that shall last as long as the water shall run in the Mississippi: our chiefs did not know for a long time what to do to bring about the peace so much desired: but when they heard that these white warriors were going to see the Sioux, they rejoiced: for said they, now we will send some of our young chiefs along with them, and they will assure the Sioux on their lands that we really wish for peace. When our young chiefs heard that some were to be sent to make peace with the Sioux, all wanted to go: for we were told that it was for the good of the nation that we were sent. I wish you to believe, Warbashaw, every one here does believe, that it is the desire of our chiefs to make peace: they have sent us here to make a path that the Sioux and Sac may visit each other. To show our sincerity, we wish some Sioux to go with us to our village, where their hearts will be made glad: our chiefs will be glad, and our friends, the traders, will be glad.

"Now let us follow the example of our ancestors: they lived in peace and were happy: let us live in peace and be happy likewise."

Some wampum was then presented to the relatives of the man recently murdered, and rather coldly received.

WABASHAW, addressing the colonel said: "I have listened to all that you have said: it is the first time that I have heard any thing from my great father for a long time: look, in yon long prairie where I and my people live: I am glad to see the Sacs here: but I see no Foxes, and it is they that I wished to see.

"It is only the Foxes that are wicked; it is they that come to kill us in our village; the Sacs are more reasonable; I speak the truth, and speak plainly. I have nothing against the Sacs, but I love not the Foxes: yet I wish to see them, that I may know why they make continual war upon us. According to our Indian custom we cannot make peace until the relations of those killed last winter be satisfied: peace would be a good thing: but I fear that no peace could be lasting between us and the Foxes.

"It would have a good effect in establishing peace between us, to have a trading-house at the upper forks of the Des Moines river on the neutral ground, where we might frequently meet and see each other."

WACONTA, painted black for mourning, rose in much agitation: "Certainly, my father, we have been advised by you as by a father: but, my father, my blood is not yet dry: my blood is still wet: now, my father, you wish to dry my blood.

"I have listened once at Prairie du Chien, and whilst we were yet listening, all the good words that we heard were broken by these Foxes: but we have listened to you again: and we will wait one year, to see if what you have said for these Sacs, be true.

"It is true, my father, we are the friends of the whites: our only enemies are the Sacs and Foxes: we have before listened

to the Americans and have made peace with the Sacs: but no sooner had we buried the war-club, than they came and killed us without cause.

"My father's name was Tuchamonmie: he was a great chief: I have taken his place: I am glad to hear you speak so much in praise of this old chief, for we know him to be worthy of it: his name is well known among all the Sioux: Warbashaw and I are equal in power and authority: therefore I speak confidently. Now I and this old man have but one heart. If the relatives of those that were killed last winter be well paid and satisfied, we will make peace."

WACOMMEE replied: "If you will send some men with us to our village, we will dry the blood that is still wet: we cannot do it now, as we have brought nothing with us but our horses: I hope you will send some young chiefs or warriors with us, and they will return with their hearts made glad."

A general shaking of hands now takes place, the pipe is passed round, and left with one in mourning: the council breaks up.

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*Monday, 20th July, 1835.*

The Sioux and Sacs again met in council in our camp. The colonel referred to his offer of the preceding day, to take under his protection any Sioux that might wish to go with us. He observed also, that he had now made a road between the Sioux and Sacs, and that he hoped that no wolf would ever howl over the blood of either shed on that road.

NEPOWEE, holding a handsome pipe with an ornamental stem and with wampum upon it, then said: "I came here to speak, but I feel embarrassed: *surely* I feel ashamed: for my relations, the Sacs and the Foxes, have on former occasions laughed at me, when I have offered them the pipe of peace.

"Now, my father, I have listened to what you have said about the wolves on the path you have made: I too hope that it may be free from blood, and that the sun may shine on both nations without a cloud.

"My father: I am rejoiced that you came here to do us good, to do good to both nations: I hope you will not forget your intention, but keep it warm under your arm. The Sioux would be glad to go with you to your villages of the Sacs, but they have no moccasins to wear, they are not ready to go so far. We will now send the pipe of peace to the Sacs and Foxes, and at another time we will go ourselves.

"Now, my relatives, listen to me: I am half Sac and half Sioux; I have been here among the Sioux since I was a little boy. Take this pipe and keep it sacred. I send this pipe to my Fox relatives, and hope to hear some good news from them: it has been touched by all our braves: take it, my friends, take the pipe:

it is not the first pipe we have given you : do not, I beseech you, make *this pipe* red with blood, or we will not bear with you long. My relatives! I hope we shall smoke this pipe together next winter at the forks of the Des Moines."

The Pipe is passed over to Wacomme.

WACOMME replied : "My friends! it is true it is far, very far, to our villages: your apology for not going with us is good: we will take your pipe with us, and will repeat to our chief all that you have said in this council: he will be very glad, and will receive this pipe with joy. It shall be kept clean, without spot, without blood: and next winter we will bring this, and our pipe, to the upper forks of the Des Moines, and we will smoke together there."

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### THE MILITARY LIFE OF BENJAMIN BASTION.

#### LETTER VIII.

[ Continued from Vol. V, p. 112. ]

For three weeks the Point had been perfectly quiet. Nothing occurred out of the ordinary course of things. Morning came and went. Evening seemed to follow morning sooner than the diminished length of the day would seem to justify; and night was as nothing to him whose unbroken slumbers gave no heed of time. It was a delicious season—that autumn among the mountains. Perhaps there was just such another to be found in any little lap-like resting place among the hills. And yet no other might present the same variety. Nature herself is sufficient for the savage or the hermit; but man, civilized and refined, with the belief, strongly rooted, of the improvement, if not of the perfectibility of his kind, bound by the social tie to other interests than those of mere selfish animal gratification, and aspiring to something better than negative enjoyment, looks with double pleasure upon scenes which present to his view the grandeur of nature with the perfections of art, and the delighted ear catches the hum and bustle of life, breaking in upon the awful stillness of solitude, as the welcome voice of an old friend. It is this blending together of motion and rest—of gay colors with the gray and time-worn tint of the noisy passage of life with the repose of a thousand years, that has rendered the banks of this noble river the favorite resort of beauty and taste; and has caused its beauties to be transferred to the glowing canvass, while they are no less celebrate in song.

An atmosphere clear, cool, exhilarating, and calculated to prepare one for great exertions of body or of mind, marked the period of which I speak; and, with employment and exercise, it produced a pleasant and sufficient excitement, often sought through other



means, but rarely found. All seemed to partake of it, and for a long period subsequently there were no parties seeking the demon which deceives. It might be the effect of apprehension or satiety; but it seemed rather the result of combined natural causes.

One morning an orderly drummer tapped at the door of our quarters, and handed a paper to Cadet Tiffe. It was a copy of charges and specifications preferred against him, drawn up by the Judge Advocate of the court martial which was now to assemble. The names of the witnesses against him were annexed, and with surprise and regret I saw my own among the number. A smile of mingled defiance and contempt curled his lip as he handed us the paper.

"As I thought," said he; "they have come down upon me with a weight of charges enough to crush a sub., and almost sufficient to endanger the commission of a colonel. There is not an offence of mine for a long year, of magnitude enough for a drum-head court, that wont be found in that pretty document, and they'll be written, printed and published for the next three months, that the world may not remain in ignorance of a criminal so deeply dyed as to violate the 1,408th, '9th, '15th, and '18th paragraphs of the General Army Regulations! Is n't it a beautiful specimen of modern fiction? Doubtless master Horse-face shall reap laurels in this field, as well as ten dollars per diem? Who knows but it may yet find a place along with Captain Kidd's and other celebrated trials? But I am ready. I know the result beforehand. But they shall have trouble. Or shall I not cut the matter short, and disappoint them? No: 'not guilty' to the whole, from beginning to end, of course. They will have no difficulty in proving some of their charges, with their scoundrel spies that take pay for the purpose."

"And who are they?" interrupted Scheldt; "for I confess I have never seen these spies, as they are called. Is it Lipsy, or Pat O'Rooney, or Avery? They never have given testimony in any cadet's case within my knowledge, and how can their report go to affect you? I cannot think there is a cadet" —

"Oh, no, no, no. I never entertained that unworthy suspicion. No! Whoever else may take upon himself the villanous office, I do not believe the man is in our ranks. But those you mention may all be paid for such service, and I have long suspected that they are employed for that purpose."

"Grant that they are, they must be brought into court to do you any harm, Tom. But, do you believe the slang talk of some worthies of your club, that the Government of this country furnishes means for such ends; or, as they say too, that the superintendent pays, out of his own pocket, such wages?"

"It is quite enough to know what may be from what has been. How else can you account for the almost miraculous knowledge of that man, of things done in darkness and at a distance? How else account for his omniscience of every transaction at this post? The very words of our mouths, uttered in the sacred privacy of

friendship, are his property. He knows all our opinions, and can retail them back to us. He receives you to-day with a smile, and to-morrow with a frown, because, forsooth, you have, in the interim, dared to enjoy a cigar!"

"Tom, it is, in my opinion, one thing to know what happens in this world, and quite another to know how events are brought about. That much of what passes in the barracks and neighborhood is known to the commander of this post, is very true. As to his means of information, beyond his own eyes and ears, the exercise of a constant, unremitting vigilance over the interests entrusted to his care, and the indiscretions and imprudent conduct of too many of our number, I have no means of knowing any thing. But, that *therefore* he employs spies, or receives information for rewards or any consideration, other than the officers' sense of duty, or that he receives other than public reports to be afterwards made charges against individuals, is too absurd for belief. The slang of Roembolt and his crew cannot convince me against reason. You are willing to receive all their assertions, because they justify your course and theirs."

"They are my friends, Jem, but I don't need their opinions to confirm me in what I have said. I am to be tried, and, but for the name of the thing, might as well take my departure from this place, without the formality of a superfluous ceremony."

"You have never been before a court, Tom: I have. Allow me to say one word on that head. It is another popular fallacy of your friends, that a cadet is not likely to get justice at the hands of a court martial; that it is the custom to consider the prisoner guilty until he prove his innocence; that most officers who compose them are disposed to consider the cadet on the footing of the private soldier, and therefore that they are inclined to shuffle through, hastening to fix the punishment upon the offence, not deliberating long on the question of guilt, and using the severity rather than the lenity allowable under their oaths. Nay, it is confidently declared, and believed by many who will live to be ashamed of their creed, that they receive instructions from the commanding officer as to the verdict they shall find, and the punishment they shall inflict. If all or the half of what you are told by disappointed and reckless men were true, the army would be no place for you, Tom, and your leaving here now would prevent future mortification and regrets. You are called on to believe, that men of experience, of unimpeachable honor and integrity, thrown together here by chance, combine to perjure themselves—for what? From too low an estimate of cadet dignity, or from fear of a commander who dares to dictate to them duties which are to be performed under oath. If there were seven such men in the service, you would n't enter it. Roembolt would advise you to bully the court—to *rave* them, in his own beautiful language, as if a firm but respectful bearing would not better maintain your own dignity of character, and command more respect and attention from them."

"Well, well, Jem, no more preaching. I shall leave you soon, and then I'll take a whole sermon."

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Two worthies, who have already been introduced upon the scene, were returning from the tailor's, when the following conversation was carried on between them:

"That was a great speech of Tom's at his trial, Sammy my Sam, and I hearn that Jem Scheldt was the author of it. He can write as well as preach, eh, Sam?"

"Well that's exactly what I *think* myself. Says I, if that warn't Jem's mark, I wish I may be tied to a sapling and let slip. He's a right smart of a pen shooter, says I, 'cause he lammed the mark right in the eye. But poor Tom was a gone horse, any how you could fix it. That last scrape just bumflummuxed him, perhaps, a leetle slicker than goose grease."

"And how the devil we escaped, is what I wonder at. The Fox might as easily have seen you and me through the window-shutter cracks, as any one else. And if his ears are as good as his eyes, he could have just as easily have fixed us as put your leg in the fire and pull it out again."

"Yes, and *we* and *him* wasn't mighty far apart at one time, I reckon. Well, somehow I feel sorry for Tom, and I wish I'd been cotch for him or with him; if I don't, I wish I may be pretty entirely considered in a commencing state of *used-upishness*. I wish Tom *hadn't 'a went* over yonder, and that's jist what I think, *prezactly*."

"I've been thinking, Sam, that if it would do any good, I'd just slip over to old Syl's, and tell him I was in the boat, and that Tiffe wasn't. And if you'd back me in the story, prehaps old Syl. would stick in a word or two to save him. They only had circumstantial evidence against him, and here'd be proof positive."

"Why, Roem, you small chance of the third of a tree toad, ha'n't you got more gumption than that thar? Plague my skin, if that 'wd 'a done any good before court, and what do you think good it 'wd do now, and the perceedings half way to Washington. Why, you ha'n't got the sense of a coon-skin, a'ter the varmint was lammed out of it. And d'ye think, Sam, Tarsy 'wd tell such a d—d lie? I wouldn't object to go before a court and swear to a round thing or two to save a friend, 'cause then a man is sort o' compelled to it. But to go voluntary like, I never *done* such, and if I do, I wish I may be fanned out o' good s'ciety and axled into the Rick-aree country spontanaceously."

At that moment Scheldt overtook and was passing the two friends, when they hailed him by the title of Parson Jem. He turned short upon them and demanded to know who they were addressing.

"Why you, to be sure, Jem. You've turned such a methodist and book-worm lately, that you seem to have forgotten old friends. You won't drink either as you used to could, I reckon you are"—

"Resolved to choose whom I please for friends—to drink or not



as I like, and to suffer no man to question my motives, or to call me names either reproachful or ridiculous."

"Well, if you aint got mounted on the highest sort of a horse. Mind, or you'll get flung, Jem, indeed will you," said the imaginative Sam Tarsy.

"Gentlemen," said Scheldt, "there appears to be little enough love lost between us. I have my road, and you, yours. If you cross mine, you may answer for the consequences. Good morning."

"Good morning to you, Parson." And Roembolt raised a horse laugh, in which Tarsy joined, giving to his part of the chorus the characteristic yell of their club. It was but for a moment, however, for two well-directed blows were bestowed with such suddenness and effect upon Roembolt's face and breast, that he was laid bleeding and gasping for breath upon the ground.—Scheldt turned and retired deliberately to his quarters, leaving Tarsy to call assistance, and conduct the wounded to the surgeon's office.

The order confirming the sentence of dismissal against Cadet Tiffe was received in due time, and it directed that sentence be carried into effect in one month, unless otherwise ordered.

The next morning a coat, pantaloons, etc., all the articles of a cadet's dress, were found lying on the rock at Gee's Point. They were carried to the post-adjutant's office and there identified, by marks, as the property of Arthur Tiffe. He was sent for, but was not in the barracks. The orderly sergeant reported him absent from reveille. The carver of his mess reported him, "not at mess-parade." No one had seen him since the night before. He was missing.

Boats, manned by soldiers, and conducted by the officers, set off immediately to search the river. Parties of musicians, orderlies and police men, were despatched to examine the shore above and below; and a board of officers appointed to receive reports and examine into the circumstances of the case. Scheldt and I were first called upon as witnesses, and our story was soon told. Tiffe was in bed at taps the night before, and indeed as the orderly of the room had answered the inspecting officers—"all present." In the morning, getting up at daylight, when objects are dimly visible, and in the hurry of seizing cloaks and running down to roll-call, we had not noticed whether he was in bed or not. On returning, he was not there, but that excited no attention. It was only when his clothes were brought up from the river, that we had noticed his trunk in its usual place, but unlocked and nearly empty.

A sort of cross-examination followed, in which questions like the following were asked me by the most sapient and *impartial* professor of ———ics. "Did you hear Mr. Tiffe get up during the night?" "Did any one lead you to suspect, or any thing induce you to think, or any circumstance suggest you to surmise, or have you been disposed to believe, that Mr. Tiffe was not in his

bed at reveille?" "Is it not a custom among room-mates, a usual thing with friends, and a result of fellow-feeling in general, to awaken each other at the first morning roll-call?" "Having distinctly heard Mr. T. pronounce the words, 'all present,' on the visits of the different inspectors last night, will you state whether you have, since that moment, spoken *to*, received any answer *from*, seen the person *of*, or know any one's having had any conversation *with*, the late Cadet Tiffe?" The answers to these questions, being simple negatives and affirmatives, led to nothing more than was becoming plain to any plain understanding. The professor, having done with his witness, rolled his eyes, as it were in a sort of triumphant phrenzy, round upon his fellow-judges, and upon the crowd in the back ground—then sank back into his chair, his under lip pouted out, while his upper teeth were laid bare by a peculiar gathering up of the muscles of the mouth, giving an expression of perfect self-content and happiness within. He then folded his hands together, raised his bent knee till it came within their grasp and became supported, much as a bowsprit is by the fore-topmast stay, thrust his other leg upon the table, cast up his keen glance at the ceiling, and seemed for some time in pleasant musings lost.

He, who is on excellent terms with himself, has generally that same bland, gentle, satisfied look which characterizes the benevolent and kind-hearted citizen, who, practising all the charities of life, loves and is beloved by all who know him. I mean, that to all but an experienced eye, the externals of these too widely different characters are very like. The young and gay are very prone to take the counterfeit along with the genuine, and thus confound these two opposites under the same convenient denomination, amiability. I pretend not to say to which belonged our sapient professor. But young and old, grave and gay, all orders and conditions of men and women, too, at the post, with one accord had placed him in the first of the category. My old professor! most abused and most worthy (of abuse.) How gather, round thy remarkable physiognomy, a thousand recollections (of screws, funnels and 'fessions, on each other piled up, to be one day hurled against that pate with other's wisdom lined and logic not thine own!) How, as thine image at this moment rises up before mine eye, and I almost hear the peculiar music of thy voice, does my pen involuntarily inscribe a word or two to help to perpetuate thy (*in*) famous deeds. *How!* but no more, Revenons à nos moutons.

Other witnesses were now examined, but without bringing out any thing material in relation to the principal object of inquiry.—Tiffe had a watch and miniature, and these had not been found with the clothes. The parties which had been sent out, returned after an ineffectual search. Two or three days passed without further development. The report of the coroners, as they might be called, was anxiously expected, and we were at length gratified, even to repletion, with the reading of two voluminous manuscripts at parade one chilly evening, when two hundred and fifty sets of

teeth might have been heard chattering, and as many pairs of legs seen trembling, forcibly recalling to the mind a scene at New Lebanon, or a trip near the banks of the Alabama, in the month of August. These two manuscripts were two reports: one from the unanimous majority, and the other from the dissentient and remonstrating minority.

Some of the results arrived at by the board, demonstrate the truth of that theorem, or it may be considered, maxim, that two heads are better than one, and, by direct proportion, three heads are better still. There had been much wrangling on points of law and evidence, as a juror would say, and manifold disputes had been maintained, two upon one, fearful odds, but manfully fought out by the minority. But this had led to irreconcilable difference of opinion, producing a double report, and causing us in the ranks to be twice chilled through and through. As in larger theatres of action, the people were pretty nearly equally divided on these two able state papers, for so I think I may call them, either of them having as many words without meaning, and as many words altogether, as any message, speech or report, which Gales & Seaton ever published. I will endeavor to extract the pith out of both.

The majority report stated seven propositions as the result of evidence examined, all of which were sustained by powerful and ingenious arguments, which we are sorry cannot appear here: viz: 1. Cadet Tiffe was missing. 2. His clothes had been found near the usual bathing place. 3. It was a cold morning, to be sure, and rather late in the year for bathing; but that the young gentleman had frequently bathed at that season, and had been heard to boast, that he had broken the ice to bathe. 4. He was in much distress of mind at fancied disgrace, in being dismissed from the service. That he may have gone down to the river in the night, mechanically undressed himself as from habit, plunged in, was seized with cramps and could not call assistance, or his cries were unheard.— 5. Argal, he sank to rise no more. 6. That his trunk being nearly empty, proved nothing, as it had never been known to be full, and the washerwoman had at the time in her possession quite an ampler regulation allowance of linen, etc., belonging to him. 7. The watch and miniature were no doubt stolen from the place where the clothes were discovered by musician Wallace, and they might yet be recovered, establishing this proposition.

There was a redeeming quality in the report, which otherwise might be condemned for jumping a little too rapidly upon conclusions, and drawing inferences in a manner not exactly authorised by either premises or facts. And, whether we suppose these two opinions to have been the result of deliberate conviction or not, we cannot withhold from them our meed of praise. The quality we mean is this; a benevolent object would be attained through the influence of the report. By accounting for his disappearance in that manner, his friends and himself would at least be spared the mortification of knowing, that his name was recorded on the rolls as a *deserter*: while the delinquent, if living, would easily anticipate the bad news by letter or his presence.



The report of the minority, i. e. of Professor \* \* \* \* \*, agreed to the two first propositions, but denied all the others in toto, and pronounced the fifth a most flagrant "non sequitur," and went on to say, that this was evidently a "rush de gare," intended to deceive the authorities and to excite the commiseration of his fellows. That his trunk was found nearly empty *did* prove something, and was assuming a little too much, that, because no one knew anything of its contents, therefore he possessed only the allowance limited by the regulations. "Is it to be presumed," said the report, "that the late Cadet Tiffe had no papers of consequence *to*, no letters addressed *to*, no valuables belonging *to*, him? Was there no one in the world that cared *for*, no one who corresponded *with*, no one who had given some little keepsake *to*, him? And where are they? Are they all stolen too? Must a thousand little nameless articles of a man's personal property be either in his trunk or at his washer-woman's?" The able manufacturer of minority remonstrances goes on in the same triumphant strain for at least some pages, but memory fails me further until he arrives at his next great point.

"Above and before all," says he, "where are his watch *which*, and the miniature *that*, he constantly wore? If he went to drown himself, the miniature may have gone with him, but the watch would most probably have been left in his quarters. If he went to bathe, both should have been found. But neither were found *with*, nor in the vicinity *of*, the clothes; and as yet, nothing has been heard *of*, nothing has come to light *concerning*, and already every one seems to have given *up*, them! Now, considering their value, it is just as reasonable to suppose he would not risk the loss *of*, nay, that he actually now has possession *of*, them, as to take it for granted they are thus abstracted, and may be recovered. Argal, etc."

After pursuing its way through some other intricacies of a like nature, it winds up with the usual remonstrance against the proceedings of the majority. No comment being made upon these divided opinions by the highest authority at the post, we were left to draw our own conclusions, and at length the whole matter died away and was forgotten.

B. B.

## DUPIN'S NAVAL FORCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

## BOOK II.—CHAPTER IV.

*Attack of Sea forces against Land forces.*

For a long time after the invention of powder had introduced a formidable artillery on board our vessels, the sailors, ignorant of the value of the new force entrusted to them, were afraid to attack with fleets, the fortresses erected on the coasts. They dreaded fortifications which they knew to be armed with an artillery especially dangerous to vessels. In fact, a few balls of a very large calibre, fired from the shore, with precision, would be sufficient to sink the best constructed vessels, and to cause the bravest crew to perish defenceless in the waves.

When the civil wars sustained by the republic of England, had excited in the hearts of its sailors a more than usual degree of audacity, they resolved to attack with their fleets the fortresses upon the enemies' coasts. What is most remarkable, this revolution in the employment of the British navy, was brought about by an officer of the army, who was called, at a mature age, to the command of vessels.

In 1655, Blake, not being able to intimidate the Dey of Tunis by menaces, entered the bay of Porto Ferino; anchored within pistol shot of the fortress; silenced its fires, then forcing the entrance of the fort, landed and burned nine piratical ships of war.

Two years after, he heard that a rich convoy had taken refuge at St. Croix, in the island of Teneriffe: he hastened thither. He found ten ships of the line and other vessels of war, protected in front by a staccado, and in flank by seven forts and a castle. Half of his fleet opposed the land defences, and resisted their fire; the other half forced the entrance of the bay. At last, after an engagement of four hours, the Spaniards abandoned their ships: the conqueror burned them under the cannon of the battery on shore. The wind which at first blew from the sea, shifted to a land breeze, and Blake left the bay in triumph, again braving the artillery of the forts. In this battle forty were killed, and one hundred and twenty wounded.

The historian Clarendon expresses an opinion of Blake which we ought to cite as appreciating with perfect exactness one of the greatest improvements in the navy. "Blake was the first who taught vessels to despise forts, which, until then, had been thought so formidable on the sea coast. He proved that they only served to make a noise, and to frighten ships which were seldom struck by their shot. He was the first to inspire the sailors with that audacity, by showing them from his own experience, what great actions they might accomplish when firmly resolved! He taught them

to combat in fire as well as on water. Although afterwards bravely imitated, he was the first to give these fine examples of moral courage and heroic exploits."

In fact, a few years after, the French navy, almost in its infancy, attacked and reduced the formidable places of Algiers and Genoa. At the commencement of the last century, Duguay Trouin immortalized himself by his fine expedition against Rio Janeiro.

The English, in following the same path, have at different periods, executed bold enterprizes against Cadiz, Gibraltar, and many other maritime towns. It would require too much time to relate all the engagements of this kind. We will content ourselves with mentioning the attack of Copenhagen.

In March, 1801, Admiral Parker forced the entrance of the sound by braving the batteries which defended this strait. He presented himself before Copenhagen, which he found protected by a line, composed of ships of the line, of armed pontoons or lighters, floating batteries, galleys, gunboats, etc., anchored with springs. This line was flanked by strong batteries erected on the Crown islands; one alone of these batteries had more than fifty cannon.

Vice Admiral Nelson led the column of attack, composed only of twelve ships of the line, and all the light vessels. In the meanwhile all the rest of the fleet, directed by Admiral Parker, cast anchor to engage the batteries on land, and protect the vessels of the attacking column which might be disabled or driven back.

Nelson, in order to reach the enemy's line, was obliged to cross a dangerous bar. Nine vessels passed successfully; but three ran aground, and could only serve to fire against the land batteries which numbered eighty-eight cannon. Two seventy-fours suffered much from the batteries, which could not, however, prevent the victory of the English. The line of anchorage was forced, the Danish fleet sunk, and Copenhagen obliged to submit to British oppression.

It is certain that these prodigious results only cost the conqueror two hundred and fifty-four killed, and six hundred and eighty-nine wounded. But, far from being a proof of the little power of the naval force, is it not, on the contrary, a striking proof of the very great power of this force? Even admitting that the eighty-eight battery pieces on the coast may have been badly served, it is still true that the same artillery, enfilading for the same length of time, fortifications, or lines either of infantry or cavalry, equal as to number, to the crews of the English fleet, would have entirely destroyed the enemy's troops. They, nevertheless, could only disable the twentieth part of the crews of this fleet. Now, I ask again; would it be just to conclude from this that the army should be regarded as the most powerful, and the navy as the least to be feared? I should think it more proper to draw from it a diametrically opposite conclusion.

I could, in the same argument, mention also the brilliant attack of the port of Algiers by Lord Exmouth; it is sufficient to point it out.



It would be wrong to conclude from the naval actions which I have just named, that all the fortifications built on the coast are equally vulnerable and capable of being reduced by a naval force.\* When the batteries erected on these fortifications have a certain elevation above the sea, as at Gibraltar, or, when the shore before these fortifications is prolonged into the water by a very gentle declivity, which oblige the vessels to remain at a considerable distance, the land batteries cannot be reduced to silence by the artillery of a fleet. Often it would be imprudent even to attempt their attack on the side of the sea, and to attempt to destroy vessels protected by such defences. Experience has shown this in the attack of Gibraltar by the French and Spanish navy in 1782, and in the attack of the French flotilla anchored with springs before Boulogne. It is known that in this last action, Latouche Treville had the glory of conquering Nelson, and of obliging him to retreat.

The flotilla that Sidney Smith commanded when he was sent to save St. Jean d'Acre, showed how formidable the assailing force of the smallest vessels of war, and the defensive means, (material or personal) which they bear with them, are to land forces the most renowned for experience and intrepidity.

If any one would wish to form an idea of the power of the navy in comparison with the army, let him examine those battles fought on the sea coast, in which a squadron, however feeble it may be supposed to be, has taken part in the action. It will be sufficient to mention the battle between General Menou and General Moore, seconded by a few small vessels sailing in the bay of Aboukir.—Then let him examine the effect which may be produced by a select body embarked on board a fleet and carrying unexpected terror and destruction to the remotest parts of the enemy's coast.—This the English did with the greatest success against our own coasts during the war of 1756. This method obliges an adversary to keep at different points on the sea coasts several detached corps, each one of which ought to be equal as to number to the body opposed to them. Now, it is the naval force that thus multiplies the effective power of this body.

We could not, without deviating from the plan of this work, enter more into detail upon the subject. It is sufficient to point out how far maritime enterprise and success may go, without pretending to relate and comment all the remarkable engagements: this task belongs to history.

In order to complete the examination of the means of attack of the naval force against land forces, we have yet to speak of the incendiary means: such is the object of the following chapter.

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\* In treating of the military force in the chapter on the defence of the coasts, (Studies and labors, book VI, chapter IV,) I made known the most approved means of defence, and the effect which might be expected from them. I ought to add here that the defences, when the coast does not slope very gradually, ought to be composed of works which have a great command over the sea, and which present as much as possible, a great many small batteries, near enough to protect each other, but not sufficiently so to be advantageously battered by a single vessel.

CHAPTER 5.—*Incendiary means.*

Formerly frequent use was made of incendiary engines. The fleets constantly carried bomb-ketches and fire-ships which they endeavored to force into the middle of the enemy's line. The instructions contained in the book of signals of the British fleet still present rules for the use of fire-ships \* in battles fought while sailing, although they are now very seldom used except in attacking fleets which fight at anchor.

The best instance of fire-ships employed against a fleet at anchor, is that of the battle of Messina. One single fire-ship forced the Spanish admiral's ship to veer away her cables. The line of anchorage thus broken, Duquesne penetrated by this opening, and placed the enemy between two fires. The victory of the French at Messina, was even more brilliant than that of the English in the bay of Aboukir, in which Nelson, the imitator of Duquesne, also placed the anchored line which he intended to destroy between two fires.

The fire-ships which were frequently employed in the sixteenth and seventeenth century in battles fought at sea, seldom produced any effect. Their use was afterwards abandoned. Now, fleets have acquired too much mobility; they traverse at a distance as well as in presence of the enemy too large spaces in too short a time for the fire-ships and bomb-ketches without the risk of being frequently cut off or separated from the body of the fleet. This is the true reason which for a century has prevented their use in battles at sea. They are now only employed in throwing incendiary projectiles at

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\* *Instructions relative to the order of sailing*: When a fleet sails against the wind, the frigates, fire-ships, and all the small vessels which have no particular station, should be kept to the windward of the fleet. When the fleet has the wind free, they should select the station where the signals of the admiral can be best seen, or where they can communicate easily with the commander of their respective squadrons, etc.

*Instructions for the conduct of the fleet during battle*: Art. 16. When a ship is so much injured as to be in danger of being destroyed or taken by the enemy, as soon as she makes a signal of distress, those ships which are the nearest and the least engaged in battle are strictly enjoined to give all possible assistance and protection to the one which is endangered. Every fire-ship, if in a favorable position, should endeavor to burn the vessel which has overcome this ship; every frigate within reach should render its assistance, either to injure the enemy, or protect the fire-ship, etc. Art. 20. The fleet should always be as well prepared for battle as circumstances will admit. If the fleet sails to leeward to attack the enemy, it should hold in readiness boats containing grapnels and fire-chains. If the weather permits, these boats should be afloat on the side opposite the enemy, in order to assist the vessels of the fleet against the fire-ships of the adversary, and to support the English fire-ships which may be sent against the enemy. Art. 21. The vessels destined to protect and cover the fire-ships, or which, without being especially destined for it, find themselves able to fulfil this service, should (at the proper time) receive on board the crews of these vessels. They ought to place themselves between the enemy and the fire-ships, and escort them as near as possible to the ships to be burned. The boats of these convoy vessels must be well armed and employed to cover the retreat of the boats of each fire-ship, as well as to defend it against the attempts which the boats of the enemy might make.

maritime towns or fleets assembled at some anchorage; it is, as we have said, against fleets at anchor that fire-ships may be occasionally employed with advantage.

Thus, Admiral Elphinstone who commanded the squadron of the *Empress Catherine* in the Mediterranean, having forced the Turkish squadron to take refuge in the bay of Tchesmé, sent against it two fire-ships which caused its ruin; the burning of this vast fleet, and the explosion of the vessels in proportion as they became a prey to the flames, were so violent as to cause the fortifications of the port to crumble.

During the last war, we have seen a striking example of vessels burned notwithstanding the protection of the batteries on shore. I allude to the squadron commanded by Admiral Sallemant, destroyed at the mouth of the Charent. This officer, fearing the fate of the fleet at Aboukir and not suspecting that he would be attacked by fire-ships, had anchored his vessels in two lines. A bent staccado before his double line, was to stop the first vessels which should attempt to penetrate between our ships; finally, on account of the bad weather, our squadron was obliged to lower its topmasts. The English, favored by the tide, brought against us enormous vessels transformed into fire-ships, having the prow so constructed as rather to raise the staccado than sink it, and thereby to break it more easily, which they did. Nevertheless, these fire-ships were not able to burn one of our vessels, but many of the latter instead of sailing up the river and placing themselves out of the reach of the enemy, threw themselves on shore on the coast. It was there that the small vessels and boats of the enemy attacked and burned them without their being assisted by those of our vessels still afloat. The loss of our squadron was, therefore, occasioned by fear, and not by the destructive force of the fire-ships.

The English made many attempts to destroy by fire the immense flotilla situated in the port and arrière port of Boulogne; their efforts were vain.

Generally, too much anxiety is caused by the preparations made by an enemy at sea for burning a fleet, which guards the entrance of a river or port. By using in defence that composure and prudence which estimates all the chances of danger and the means to be employed to avoid it, we may rest assured, that the destruction attempted by the incendiary means hitherto employed, will be reduced to next to nothing.

I do not speak of torpedoes, nor of floating mines,\* nor of Congreve rockets, nor of many other inventions which have had hardly any success at sea. We must wait until all these means have become somewhat efficacious, before we place them in the list of the offensive and defensive resources of the naval force.

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\* See on this subject a memoir published by M. Montgery.



## WASHINGTON'S ORDER BOOK.

[CONCLUDED FROM VOL. 6, NO. 2—PAGE 128.]

**JULY 28.**—The extreme importance of having the works and defences at and about West Point, on both sides of the river, completed with all possible dispatch is so obvious, that the General conceives it totally unnecessary to use arguments in proof of it. In the present unfinished state of them they are a restraint upon every operation and movement of our army, and must continue to be so till they are put in such a posture of defence as to be safely confided to a proper garrison. Strongly impressed with this idea himself, the General most earnestly exhorts the officers of fatigue parties to see that the men employ their labor to advantage, and that they are not suffered during their tour of duty to be idle. The works now entered upon must be completed. The more hands therefore, and the greater the exertions employed in the execution the sooner will the troops be exempted from fatigue duty and at liberty to move from their present position, from which public benefits and private conveniencies will result. To facilitate these desirable ends, the engineers who superintend the different works will meet the Adjutant General at 5 o'clock this afternoon to settle a new detail, by which matters are to be regulated that the work is not to cease from gun firing till twilight in the evening. To effect this the fatigue parties of the day are to be classed into three or four setts, as may be thought best—drawing lots for their tours of work; the first not to quit till relieved by the second, and so on—those who have the warm part of the day to have the shortest time to labour.

And as great advantages would result from having fixed superintendents of the works, who being acquainted with the designs of the engineer and acting immediately under his directions can carry the business on systematically, and without loss of time and labour, (which is scarce possible to be done by officers in rotation) the General will not only thank but recompence any officers for their extra trouble who will undertake this duty. Such as incline to do it will please to hand in their names to the Adjutant General by to-morrow evening, who is to report them at Head Quarters. These superintendents are not intended to exempt a due proportion of officers to the fatigue parties—as these are equally necessary; and it is hoped will see that the men do their duty with a dispatch becoming the urgency of the case.

The Quarter Master General having occasion for the watermen engaged by him for the use of the ferries, and who are now employed at this place, they are to be relieved by an equal number, or as many as are absolutely necessary to the duty, from Patterson's, late Learned's, and the North Carolina brigades.

He will cause an exact return to be rendered as soon as possible of all the boats at this place and in the vicinity of it—will see

that such, and so many of them as are necessary for ordinary purposes be allotted, and the rest (such as want repair being got in order) placed under the care of a proper person with a competent guard, who is not to suffer any of them to be used without his orders, while at this post, in writing.

A return is also to be given in of all the boats, belonging to the public, at New Windsor, Newburgh, Fishkill, and their vicinities, with an estimate of the number of men they are capable of carrying. The boats, with respect to size, to be classed and the number of each enumerated in the return and how they are provided with oars.

29.—The following is the detail for fatigue agreeable to yesterday's orders as assigned to the several works to be divided in four relieves. The first to work from gun firing till 9 in the morning—the 2d from 9 to 12—the 3d from 12 to 3—and the last from 3 to twilight in the evening.

<i>Relief.</i>		
Smallwood,	412	103 } at the redoubt near the Maryland Line.
Gist,	300	75 } 50 at Fort Webb.
Irvine,	424	106 } 25 to attend the masons at Fort Putnam.
2d Pennsylvania	312	78 } 50 to parade at the point to cut fascines.
North Carolina,	248	62 } 28 at Constitution Island.
Patterson's	400	100 } 75 at the Point.
4th Massachusetts	304	76 } 25 to attend the masons at Fort Putnam.

A Captain—2 subs—3 serjeants and 2 drums and fifes to every fifty men.

A corporal and 3 from the Maryland line to guard the tools at the redoubt near said line to mount at sunset and come off at sunrise.

The Pay Master General's guard to be relieved from the Maryland line till further orders.

By the establishment of the army each regiment is to consist of eight battalion companies and one company of light infantry consequently the returns of the army should be conformable thereto; and although the light infantry are draughted according to the strength of the regiments, the returns are to be made in the following order—

#### Light Infantry

1st Capt. Company  
Colonel's  
4th Captain's  
Majors

3d Captain's  
Lieut. Colonels  
5th Captain's  
2d Captain's

The regiments which have only two field officer's companies must be drawn up and returned in the following order,

Light Infantry	Light Infantry
1st Captain Company	3d Capt.
6th Capt.	Major's
4th Capt.	5th Capt.
Lt. Colonel's	2d Capt.

When a regiment furnishes part of a company of light infantry that number is returned fit for duty, and as many as are wanting to complete are inserted in the proper columns.

For example,

If a regiment furnishes 2 sergeants 1 drum and fife and 36 rank and file, they are to be returned present for duty, and 1 sergt. 1 D and F and 20 rank and file wanting to complete, by which means the light infantry (which is always to be kept complete) is returned fit for duty. When a regiment furnishes no light infantry, all its light infantry officers that remain in the battalion must be placed to those companies which want officers and returned with them, and the full compliment of non commissioned and rank and file for a company returned. The field and regimental staff officers should be returned in their respective columns, opposite their companies; the other staff officers, as B. Majors, Aids-de-camps, B. Q. Mrs. &c. with the regimental staff, are to be inserted at the bottom of the returns on the staff, amongst the officer's casualties.

The commanding officers of cavalry have of late surprizingly neglected to transmit their returns to the orderly office agreeable to the general order of the 11th March last. The General insists upon an implicit compliance therewith in future, and that the said commanding officers shall be answerable for any neglect.

Many and pointed orders have been issued against that unmeaning and abominable custom of swearing—notwithstanding which, with much regret the General observes that it prevails, *if possible*, more than ever. His feelings are continually wounded by the oaths and imprecations of the soldiers whenever he is in hearing of them. The name of that Being from whose bountiful goodness we are permitted to exist and enjoy the comforts of life is incessantly imprecated and profaned in a manner as wanton as it is shocking. For the sake therefore of religion, decency and order, the General hopes and trusts that officers of every rank will use their influence and authority to check a vice which is as unprofitable as it is wicked and shameful. If officers would make it an invariable rule to reprimand and, if that does not do, punish soldiers for offences of this kind, it could not fail of having the desired effect.

30.—The following officers are to superintend the several works hereafter assigned them.

Lt. Col. Howard with Lt. Hugo as his assistant, the redoubts assigned to Gen. Smallwood's brigade.



Lt. Col. Williams with Capt. Gosner, Fort Putnam and Fort Webb.

Col. Tupper with Capt. Drew, the works at the Point.

Capt. Hall and Capt. Tatum, the works on Constitution island.

Major Troop with Capt. Holmes, the redoubts on the east side of the river.

For the future the short troop to beat on the grand parade instead of the general.

"IN CONGRESS 11 March 1779

Resolved, That the engineers in the service of the United States shall be formed into a corps and stiled the "Corps of Engineers" and shall take rank and enjoy the same rights, honors and privileges with the other troops on continental establishment.

That a commandant of the corps of engineers shall be appointed by Congress, to whom their orders or those of the Commanders in Chief shall be addressed; and such commandant shall render to the Commander in Chief and to the board of war an account of every matter relative to his department.

That the engineers shall take rank in their own corps according to the dates of their respective commissions."

"WAR OFFICE 30 March 1779

First—The commandant of the corps of engineers, or commanding engineer in an army, shall render an account to the commanding general of every thing that concerns the service of the corps, and shall in all cases which relate to the department act under the orders and with the concurrence of the commanding general.

Second—Whenever the army is on a march an engineer shall attend the Q. M. Gen. or officer ordered to fix on the place of encamping, to give his advice and opinion thereon; and he shall also, as soon as may be, take a plan of the camp and report it to the general."

A pay master from each brigade on this ground will attend at the Inspector General's quarters to-morrow morning 9 o'clock to consult with him on the means of establishing an uniformity in the manner of keeping their accounts. They will bring their books with them. Lt. Colonels Brooks and Harmer will please to attend at the same time and place.

A general court martial of the line to assemble at West Point to-morrow morning 9 o'clock to try Mr. James Geary, assistant to George Measam Esq., Depy. Clothier Gen. of the Northern Department, and such others as shall come before them. Col. Durhee to preside—a Lt. Col. or Major next for court martial and two Captains from the Maryland line—the same from the Penna. and the Massachusetts, and three Captains from the Connecticut, to attend as members.

After Orders—A sergt. corpl. and 12 men from the Connecti-

cut line furnished with three days provision, to be sent to Fishkill very early to-morrow morning, where they will take charge of fifteen prisoners whom they are to escort to Easton. The Commissary of Prisoners will give the proper directions.

31.—John Davidson Esq. of the 2d Maryland regiment, and eldest captain in the 2d Maryland brigade, is appointed brigade major to the same, till further orders, vice Capt. Selman, whose ill state of health prevents his doing that duty, and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The Inspector General is requested to review the levies that have already arrived from the State of Massachusetts, and those which hereafter arrive, before the distribution takes place, and to report to Head Quarters the number and names of those who by youth, age, or infirmity are unfit for the service. An inspection of the whole army is also to be made by the sub-inspectors between the first and fifth of Aug. next, which is to be confined to the men, their arms, accoutrements and ammunition, and to be conducted in such a manner as will least interfere with the prosecution of the works.

The Q. M. G. will give particular directions to have all the horses of the army shod and the waggon repaired and held in perfect readiness for a speedy movement.

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS—*Continued.*

“Third—The commandant of the corps of engineers and the commanding engineer in a separate department, shall send plans of the more important positions and places occupied by the army in which they shall respectively serve to the board of war. These plans will of course be delivered to the Commander in Chief or General commanding a separate army by the commandant of the corps of engineers or commanding engineer.

The subordinate engineers will also report plans of works entrusted to them by their superior officers to such inferior officer, and no plans are to be communicated by any engineer to any person or persons whatever.

Fourth—In the attack of towns, forts, or fortified camps of an enemy by regular approaches, the commanding engineer shall direct the operations under the authority and with the approbation of the commanding general, to whom he shall daily transmit a plan, marking out the progress of the attack, and shall likewise from time to time transmit to the board of war a plan of the said attacks together with a journal of the operations.”

August 1—The honorable the Congress on the 5th of April last were pleased to pass the following resolve.

“That the regimental clothiers have an allowance of thirty dollars per month in addition to their present appointment.”

The board of general officers appointed by the order of the 23 ulto. have reported that the rank and precedence of the regiments in the Massachusetts line should stand as in the following arrange-

ment; being founded on the seniority of the officers who first commanded them under the appointments made in consequence of the resolution of Congress 16 Sept. 1776.

Vose's	1st	Jackson's	8th
Bailey's	2d	Wesson's	9th
Greaton's	3d	Marshall's	10th
Sheppard's	4th	Tupper's	11th
Putnam's	5th	Late Brewer's	12th
Nixon's	6th	Late Wigglesworth's	13th
Late Alden's	7th	Bradford's	14th
		Bigelow's	15th

The Commander in Chief approves the arrangement, and the regiments henceforth are to rank and to be numbered accordingly

The General being informed that a number of men have been left at New Windsor and the neighborhood as baggage guards, directs that they be immediately withdrawn to join their regiments, and that the baggage be either stored there or brought to the army, the former will be preferable—in either case the Q. M. G. will give the necessary assistance.

Fatigue rum at the rate of a jill per day per man to be constantly issued to the different parties on fatigue and to the artificers employed in carrying on the works. This to be delivered by the issuing commissary or keeper of the magazines, or returns signed by the superintendants of the different works, who are requested to be careful to prevent imposition.

The Commander in Chief directs that a general officer of the day be appointed to attend to the police of the camp.

All officers are requested to be attentive to the appearance of any strangers at this post, and to send all such as cannot give a good account of themselves and have not proper passes to the General of the day, to be by him critically examined, and if not satisfied of their characters and business, he is to have them sent instantly away, on pain of punishment if they are afterwards found loitering about; or committed to the provost if there are any circumstances of suspicion to justify it.

All the field officers of the day and regimental officers of police are to pay very particular attention to this order.

Brigadier for to-morrow—Smallwood.

2.—The board of general officers on the Massachusetts arrangement are requested to meet again to-morrow forenoon ten o'clock at the same place to determine a further matter which will be submitted.

Each Massachusetts regiment is to make out a list of the men of the new levies or nine month's men who are carpenters, blacksmiths, armourers, house or wheel wrights, sailors &c., or of any other trade, and deliver the list to Maj. Gen. McDougall. Those who have no trade are immediately to relieve the guards at the hospitals and stores at Fishkills and elsewhere, likewise the bag-



gage and commissary guards &c., and the old guards are to be sent back to their respective regiments.

Captains Bebee, McMurray, and Du-Val—Capt. Lts. Gilliland, Bushnell, and Little—and First Lieutenants Cleveland, and Welch, who are nominated as officers to the companies of sappers and miners, are requested to call forthwith on Brig. Gen. Du Portail and take his orders.

Capt. John Doughty of the Corps of Artillery is appointed Brigade Major to the same, till further orders, and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS—*Continued.*

"Fifth—In a besieged place the commanding engineer shall direct the defence of it under the orders of the commanding officer of the garrison, and shall keep an exact journal of all the operations in order that it may serve for his justification and for that of the garrison in case of a surrender.

#### OF THE COMPANIES OF SAPPERS AND MINERS.

First—Untill men are inlisted for the purpose, companies of sappers and miners, not exceeding three, shall be formed, as circumstances may require, by drafts from the line at the direction of the Commander in Chief and be under command of the commandant of the corps of engineers untill otherwise ordered by Congress. Each company to consist of a captain, captain lieutenant, and a first and second lieutenant, four sergeants, four corporals, one fife, one drum, and sixty privates.

Third—The duty of the companies of sappers and miners shall be under the direction of the engineers, to construct field works of every kind, and all works necessary for the attack or defence of places as circumstances may require.

For the day—Brig. Gen. Patterson.

3—For duty to-morrow—Brig. Gen. Gist.

The honorable the board of war having been pleased to appoint Ralph Pomeroy Esq., Commissioner to settle and pay all arrearages of clothing due to the troops of these States for the year 1777, the General directs that the accounts and rolls required by the resolve of Congress of the 2d March last, and published in orders the 12th following, be immediately made out and presented to the said Commissioner for settlement.

A regimental Q. M. from each of the brigades on this ground to attend at the Inspector General's quarters to-morrow morning 9 o'clock to consult with him on a proper method of keeping their books uniformly throughout the army. Lt. Colonels Brooks and Harmer will please to attend at the same time and place.

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS—*Continued.*

Fourth—When a company or part of a company of sappers and miners is detached with any body of troops without an engineer,

the officer commanding the company or part of the company shall take his orders directly from the commanding officer of the troops, and wheresoever an engineer having the charge of any works shall be absent, the officer commanding the detachment of sappers and miners employed in constructing them shall direct the works agreeable to the plans and instructions formed by such engineer.

Fifth—When the companies of sappers and miners shall not be sufficient to perform the duties assigned them, the commanding engineer shall apply to the commanding general to furnish him with such a number of fatigue men from the line as the service shall require.

Sixth—The officers of the line detached with the command of fatigue parties for assisting in constructing the works shall not interfere in directing them, but shall be wholly confined to keeping their soldiers employed and maintaining a proper order and discipline.

Seventh—The sappers and miners shall in case of extraordinary fatigue and danger have such gratuities over and above their pay as the commanding engineer with the concurrence of the commanding general of the army shall think they deserve.

Eighth—The officers of sappers and miners shall enjoy the same rights, honors and privileges with the officers of the like ranks in the other corps of the army.

Eleventh—From the time the men are drafted, and during their continuance in these companies, they are to be left out of the pay rolls of their respective regiments.

4—For duty to-morrow—Brig. Gen. Irvine.

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE CORPS OF SAPPERS AND MINERS—*Continued.*

Fourteenth—The sappers and miners shall be taught the established manual exercise and evolutions on days when they are not employed in the particular duties of their department, and the same police and discipline shall be practiced in their companies as in the other parts of the army.

Fifteenth—The commandant of the corps of engineers shall take the most effectual and expeditious measures to have the sappers and miners instructed in their duty; and as probably the officers of these companies whose talents and acquirements fit them for the profession will be appointed engineers, the commandant of the corps of engineers shall form a plan of instructions for these officers, which being approved by the board of war and Commander in Chief shall be carried into execution.

Sixteenth—The commandant of the corps of engineers shall appoint an engineer or engineers whom he shall judge best qualified to read lectures on fortification proper for towns or the field—on the manner of adapting fortifications to different grounds and positions—to regulate their extent according to the number of men intended to be covered—upon attack and defence—upon the use of mines and their construction—upon the manner of forming

plans, reconnoitering a country, and choosing, laying out, and fortifying a camp.

Seventeenth—On a march in the vicinity of an enemy, a detachment of the companies of sappers and miners shall be stationed at the head of a column, directly after the van guard, for the purpose of opening and mending the roads and removing obstructions.

After Order—A brigade general court martial to sit next Monday 10 o'clock A. M. at Chester for the trial of Mr. John Price, D. C. Gen. Forage. The court to be composed of artillery officers. Col. Harrison, commandant of the park is desired to order the appointment of the officers to compose the court.

5—For duty to-morrow—Brig. Gen. Patterson.

The board of general officers appointed in the orders of the 8th July last to settle the relative rank of the colonels of artillery so far as it remains unsettled and the ranks of the regiments of artillery, are requested to meet again to-morrow morning ten o'clock at the president's quarters for the final determination of the points referred to them. Some additional papers will be submitted and Gen. Knox at the request of the board will attend to give information on the facts necessary to be ascertained. Maj. Gen. Lord Stirling and Brig. Gen. Woodford being absent on detachment, Generals Irvine and Gist will replace them. The board will now consist of Maj. Gen. Putnam president, Maj. Generals Greene, St. Clair and Baron D' Kalb, and Brig. Generals Irvine and Gist.

Capt. Keane of the 11th Penna. regt. is appointed Aide de Camp, pro tempore, to Maj. Gen. St. Clair vice ——— Giles, a prisoner, and is to be respected accordingly.

The pay masters of the artillery regiments and companies, and of the Massachusetts, Connecticut, and North Carolina regiments now in camp are to make out rolls for the hundred dollars gratuity due to the soldiers in their respective corps in consequence of the resolution of Congress published in the orders of the 8th July last, and present them to the Deputy Pay Master General, that they may be examined and warrants granted for the sums which shall be due. This business with respect to the other troops is not yet quite ready.

The regimental pay rolls for June and July are to be lodged at the pay office without delay that they may be examined and certified.

There is to be no bathing between the hours of eight and five—and the custom of remaining long in the water is to be discontinued, as it is too relaxing and injurious to health. It is also expected that the soldiers in this kind of recreation observe more decency than they usually practice. These orders to be read to and impressed upon them by their officers.

The court of inquiry whereof Col. Clark was president, appointed to inquire into certain complaints exhibited against Col. Armand by Col. Van-den-burgh and Mr. Jones Adams of this State, beg leave to report to the Commander in Chief as their



opinion, that the complaints exhibited against Col. Armand by Col. Van-den-burgh and Mr. Adams are so far supported as to render a trial necessary.

The Commander in Chief directs a general court martial to set at the usual place to-morrow morning ten o'clock for the trial of Col. Armand—

Col. Stewart to preside.

Colonel Gouvion, Lt. Colonels Ford, De Buisson and Littlefield, Majors De La Neuville, Leavensworth and Ville Franche—Capt. Du Ponceau and a Captain from the Maryland, Pennsylvania and Connecticut lines, and garrison—to attend as members.

A sergt. and 6 men from the Maryland line and a corporal and six from the Penna. to be sent to New Windsor to guard the magazine of provision at that place. They are to parade at the orderly office to-morrow morning 8 o'clock.

6—For duty to-morrow—Brig. Gen. Gist.

The general court martial of which Colonel Jackson is president is dissolved. That whereof Col. Durhee is president is ordered to sit to-morrow morning 9 o'clock at the barrack on the Point. Col. Starr, vice Col. Durhee, on command, will preside.

7—For duty to-morrow—Brig. Gen. Irvine.

The honorable the Congress on the 26th July last were pleased to pass the following act.

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of Congress be presented to Brig. Gen. Wayne for his brave, prudent and soldierly conduct in the spirited and well conducted attack on Stony Point.

Resolved unanimously, That Congress entertain a proper sense of the good conduct of the officers and soldiers under the command of Brig. Gen. Wayne in the assault of the enemy's works at Stony Point, and highly commend the coolness, discipline and firm intrepidity exhibited on the occasion.

Resolved unanimously, That Lt. Col. Fleury and Maj. Stewart, who by their situation in leading the two attacks had a more immediate opportunity of distinguishing themselves, have by their personal achievements exhibited a bright example to their brother soldiers, and merit in a particular manner the approbation and acknowledgement of the United States.

Resolved unanimously, That Congress warmly approve and applaud the cool determined spirit with which Lt. Gibbons and Lt. Knox led on the *forlorn hope*, braving danger and death in the cause of their country.

Resolved unanimously, That a medal, emblematical of this action be struck: That one of gold be presented to Brig. Gen. Wayne and a silver one to Lt. Col. Fleury and Major Stewart respectively.

Resolved unanimously, That brevets of captain be given to Lt. Gibbons and Lt. Knox.

Resolved unanimously, That a brevet of captain be given to Mr. Archer the bearer of the General's letter, and volunteer aide to Brig. Gen. Wayne.

Resolved unanimously, That Congress approve the promises of

reward made by Brig. Gen. Wayne, with the concurrence of the Commander in Chief, to the troops under his command.

Resolved unanimously, That the value of the military stores taken at Stony Point be ascertained and divided among the gallant troops by whom it was reduced, in such manner and proportion as the Commander in Chief shall prescribe.

It having been found prejudicial to the service to discharge soldiers from the army who are capable of doing duty in the corps of invalids, the Commander in Chief directs that no non-commissioned officer or soldier shall be discharged without a certificate from the director general or a senior surgeon of the flying hospital, or from some of the principal surgeons of the general hospital, "that he is unfit to serve in the corps of invalids as well as in the field" and that all discharges otherwise granted shall be void.

Those who are certified to be unfit for field duty only, the Brigadiers or commandants of brigades are to give them transferences to the corps of invalids in the following manner—

A. B. of ——— regt. being certified by ——— unfit for field duty, is hereby transfered to the corps of invalids.

The men thus transfered are to be sent to the orderly office the first Monday of every month, that they may be sent under proper officers to those places where the invalids are stationed. Certificates are to be sent with them of what pay and cloathing they have received and what may remain due to them.

Colonel Starr being absent from camp, Col. Russell is appointed president of the general court martial in his room. The court to sit next Monday ten o'clock A. M. at the usual place.

8—For duty to-morrow—Brig. Gen. Patterson.

The Brigadier of the day will receive from the other officers of the day in each division all remarkable occurrences and report them at Head Quarters after his tour of duty is finished. He is during this period to examine into the state, condition and manner of treating the prisoners in the provost and obtain a return of them. Such as shall to him appear to be confined for crimes triable by regimental courts martial are to be sent to the quarter guards of their respective regiments for that purpose with a writing, specifying their crimes and the names of the witnesses.

Ensign James Murran of the 2d Penna. regiment is appointed Q. Mr. to the same—vice Lieut. Norton, whose indisposition renders him incapable of doing that duty.

## CONSIDERATIONS ON NAUTICAL SURVEYING.

[FROM THE UNITED SERVICE JOURNAL, AUGUST, 1835.]

"This, with an Halley's luxury of soul,  
Calls the wild needle back upon the pole;  
Maps half the winds, and gives the sail to fly  
In every ocean of the Arctic sky."

For nearly a couple of ages, the greatest maritime nation in the world labored under the imputation of producing the worst charts; and we have more than once attempted to assign reasons for so discreditable a distinction. In the first place, it does not seem to have been generally admitted, that science was at all necessary to knowledge; a singular error, and one deeply injurious to hundreds of officers, who might otherwise have been relieved from the pains of monotony, and the penalties of idleness, by engaging in pursuits where satiety is never known. The second serious mistake was, the supposition, that Masters of the Navy were capable of supplying every required hydrographic information. How persons slenderly educated, could be expected to render such important duties, in addition to stowing the hold,—superintending the spars and gear,—inspecting warrant officers' indents, supplies and expenses,—attending to the ground tackle and moorings,—inditing the log-book,—and being at every one's call, is truly surprising; and the consequence has been, that though evincing great skill as seamen, pilots and navigators, with considerable merit in making remarks on roadsteads, tides, currents and winds, they have rarely produced a chart, or even a plan, worthy of publication, and have scarcely fixed the latitude or longitude of any place with ultimate and satisfactory precision. This assertion is not to be weakened by citing the names of Cook, Spence, Whitby or Thomas, since they are more known as Surveyors than as Masters; and at best, they only form the exception to the rule.

Naval science has, however, now reached a high degree of utility, and promises much further advancement; but it is less the effect of any direct encouragement, than from the example of a few, to whom the evils of ignorance were obvious. Something must also be attributed to the improvement which time naturally creates; for knowledge no longer consists of paradox and contradiction, and the days are passed when it was the property only of men who, banishing all elegance of thought and illustration, separated science from the liberal arts, and waged war with all that was not technical and mechanical. Indeed, if there be any circumstances by which the present age is preeminently distinguished, it is the advantage with which the results of scientific inquiry have been applied in the practical concerns of life.

Thus, from the first establishment of the Greenwich Observatory, in 1675, there have been increasing efforts to improve the sci-



ence of nautical astronomy, especially in all that relates to finding the longitude at sea ; while the artists of England have applied their utmost talents in the construction and perfection of instruments for taking the necessary observations. These exertions have been met by the discernment of various meritorious officers in the Navy and the East India Company's Service, but the proportion of these, as compared to the mass, was lamentably trifling ; and there are still numbers who have even passed the usual examination, whose sole notion of "taking an observation" is confined to the sun's meridian altitude, and nothing more. Yet in all the useful problems in the practice of nautical astronomy, the methods of performing the calculations have been so simplified, that it is not easy to conceive for what situation, connected with the navigation of a ship, the person is fitted, who is incapable of comprehending them.

Such being the case with navigation, for the practical acquisition of which, neither much time nor great talent is requisite, it is not surprising that we have had so few seamen capable of executing nautical surveys, with precision and scope equal to their use and importance. The navigator may be considered very expert, even though his latitudes fall within a mile or two of his mark, and his longitudes within ten or twelve, or a "handful," as Billy Culmer said; for such is sufficient to conduct a ship in safety over the ocean ; but the fixing of headlands and other positions, by the surveyor, require a very superior degree of knowledge and practice.

Many may execute the plan of a particular place with tolerable accuracy, and yet have no capacity for a series of continued operations under laborious application, and very few even of such pet undertakings are entitled to much praise. The mere log book sketches which were honored, till of late, with the name of surveys, wore mostly both in their construction and drawing, beneath criticism, and documents have been officially forwarded to the Admiralty, as the production of educated officers, which any cook's-mate or swab-washer in the fleet might have been made to excel in a few days. Much of this solecism resulted from the badness of the charts formerly circulated,—much from the practical use of instruments not having been taught,—and much from the want of good treatises on the subject. The whole of these causes are fast disappearing. The navy is now supplied with excellent surveys by its own officers,—the use of instruments is daily becoming more familiar,—and, besides the work we so lately noticed, by Commander Belcher, we have now before us another clever treatise on marine surveying, by Mr. T. C. Robson, of the honorable East India Company's service,\* which has been recently published. Thus the great objects of hydrography, a branch of science so interesting to a powerful commercial nation, and so important to its navigators, are being thrown open to general attainment.

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\* A Treatise on Marine Surveying, by Thomas Charles Robson, &c., 8vo.

Mr. Robson's book is more elementary than that of Commander Belcher, and is well adapted for preparing the way to a fuller knowledge of the useful art on which it treats. It commences with an explanation of the principles of plane trigonometry, as the foundation of most branches of operative mathematics. He has in this part of the work detailed all the most simple methods of calculating the sides and angles of triangles, and each rule is illustrated by appropriate examples to the type of working. This is followed by the application of those principles to the mensuration of heights and distances, with a short,—we should say, too short,—account of the delicate allowances for refraction, and the method of correcting an observed angle for the curvature of the earth. The author then proceeds to describe the several instruments best adapted for the purpose of surveying, with the methods of adjusting and using them; after which he enters, rather elaborately, on several problems of nautical astronomy for determining the time, the latitude, and the longitude, from observation. These rules, as well as several that follow on the practice of marine surveying under various circumstances, though trite, are requisite to a treatise which may become a manual and a text-book to the young officer; and though there is little or nothing new to "old stagers," what there is will be found to be well done, and delivered so clearly and explicitly, as to leave the reader with a craving for more from the same hand. In order that the work may be complete in itself, it concludes with a table of logarithms of natural numbers; another of the logarithmic sines, tangents, and secants; and a third of natural sines; and there are appended seven plates of copious illustrations, neatly engraved.

Such are the contents of Mr. Robson's book, and we can recommend every one who is anxious to rescue the fair fame of British seamen from any remaining imputation of indifference to scientific character, to possess themselves of it. There is sufficient to teach the principles of mere surveying, as well as those by which the mariner may be enabled to steer clear of rocks and shoals, and pursuing his course over the "illimitable sea," avoid some of the most frightful hazards of shipwreck. The nature of the work precludes extracts or reduction; but the recent death of the celebrated and unrivalled mechanic, Troughton, tempts us to insert the useful and simple directions for observing with his beautiful and powerful Reflecting Circle, in the words of the inventor:—

"Prepare the instrument for observation by screwing the telescope into its place, adjusting the drawer to focus, and the wires parallel to the plane, exactly as you do with a sextant; also set the index forwards to the rough distance of the sun or moon, or moon and stars, and holding the circle by the short handle, direct the telescope to the fainter object, and make the contact in the usual way. Now read off the degree, minute, and second, by that branch of the index to which the tangent screw is attached; also the minute and second shown by the other two branches. These give the distance taken on three different sextants: but as yet it

is only to be considered as half an observation; what remains to be done is to complete the whole circle by measuring that angle on the other three sextants; therefore set the index backwards nearly to the same distance, and reverse the plane of the instrument by holding it by the opposite handle, and make the contact as above, and read off as before what is shown on the three several branches of the index. The mean of all six is the true apparent distance, corresponding to the mean of the two times at which the observations were made.

"When the objects are seen very distinctly, so that no doubt whatever remains about the contact in both sights being perfect, the above may safely be relied on as a complete set; but if, from the haziness of the air, too much motion, or any other cause, the observations have been rendered doubtful, it will be advisable to make more: and if, at such times, so many readings should be troublesome, six observations and six readings may be conducted in the following manner:—Take three successive sights forwards exactly as is done with a sextant, only take care to read them off on different branches of the index; also make three observations backwards, using the same caution: a mean of these will be the distance required. When the number of sights taken forwards and backwards are unequal, a mean between the means of those taken backwards and those taken forwards will be the true angle.

"It need hardly be mentioned, that the shades or dark glasses apply like those of a sextant for making the objects nearly of the same brightness; but it must be insisted on that the telescope should on every occasion be raised or lowered by its proper screw for making them perfectly so.

"The foregoing instructions for taking distances apply equally for taking altitudes by the sea or artificial horizon,\* they being no more than distances taken in a vertical plane. Meridian altitudes cannot, however, be taken both backwards and forwards the same day, because there is not time: all that can be done, therefore, is to observe the altitude one way, and use the index error; but even here you have a mean of that altitude and this error taken on three different sextants. Both at sea and land, where the observer is stationary, the meridian altitude should be observed forwards one day and backwards the next, and so on alternately from day to day. The mean of latitudes deduced severally from such observations will be the true latitude; but in these there should be no application of index error, for that being constant the result would be somewhat vitiated thereby.

"When both the reflected and direct images require to be darkened, as is the case when the sun's diameter is measured, and

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\* When the contact in the artificial horizon is at the lower limb, the images will separate shortly after the contact has been made, if the altitude be increasing; and, if the altitude be decreasing, they will begin to overlap; but when the contact is formed at the upper limb, the reverse takes place. An observer, if in doubt as to which limb he has been observing, should watch the object for a short time after he has made the observation.



when his altitude is taken with an artificial horizon, the attached dark glasses ought not to be used. Instead of them, those which apply to the eye-end of the telescope will answer much better; the former, having their errors magnified by the power of the telescope, will, in proportion to this power and those errors, be less distinct than the latter.

"In taking distances, when the position does not vary from the vertical above 30 or 40 degrees, the handles which are attached to the circle are generally most conveniently used; but in those which incline more to the horizontal, that handle which screws into a cock on one side, and into the crooked handle on the other, will be found more applicable.

"When the crooked handle happens to be in the way of reading one of the branches of the index, it must be removed for the time by taking out the finger screw which fastens it to the body of the circle.

"If it should happen that two of the readings agree with each other very well, and the third differs from them, the discordant one must not on any account be omitted, but a fair mean must always be taken.

"It should be stated that when the angle is about 30 degrees, neither the distance of the sun and moon, nor an altitude of the sun, with the sea horizon, can be taken backwards; because the dark glasses at that angle prevent the reflected rays of light from falling on the index glass, whence it becomes necessary, when the angle to be taken is quite unknown, to observe forwards first, where the whole range is without interruption; whereas, in that backwards, you will lose sight of the reflected image about that angle. But in such distances, where the sun is out of the question, and when his altitude is taken with an artificial horizon, (the shade being applied to the end of the telescope,) that angle may be measured nearly as well as any other; for the rays incident on the index glass will pass through the transparent half of the horizon glass without much diminution of their brightness.

"The advantages of this instrument, when compared with the sextant, are chiefly these:—The observations for finding the index error are rendered useless, all knowledge of that being put out of the question by observing both forwards and backwards. By the same means the errors of the dark glasses are also corrected; for if they increase the angle one way, they must diminish it the other way by the same quantity. This also perfectly corrects the errors of the horizon glass, and those of the index glass very nearly. But what is still of more consequence, the error of the centre is perfectly corrected by reading the three branches of the index; while this property combined with that of observing both ways, probably reduces the errors of dividing to one-sixth part of their simple value. Moreover, angles may be measured as far as 150 degrees, consequently, the sun's double altitude may be observed when his distance from the zenith is not less than 15 degrees; at which altitude the head of the observer begins to intercept the

rays of light incident on the artificial horizon; and, of course, if a greater angle could be measured, it would be of no use in this respect.

"This instrument, in common with the sextant, requires three adjustments:—First, the index glass perpendicular to the plane of the circle. This being done by the maker, and not liable to alter, has no direct means applied to the purpose; it is known to be right, when, by looking into the index glass, you see that part of the limb which is next you reflected, in contact with the opposite side of the limb, as one continued arc of a circle; on the contrary, when the arc appears broken where the reflected and direct parts of the limb meet, it is a proof that it wants to be rectified. The second is, to make the horizon glass perpendicular. This is performed by a capstan screw, at the lower end of the frame of that glass, and is known to be right, when, by a sweep of the index, the reflected image of any object will pass exactly over, or cover the image of that object seen directly. The third adjustment is for making the line of collimation parallel to the plane of the circle. This is performed by two small screws, which also fasten the collar into which the telescope screws to the upright stem on which it is mounted: this is known to be right, when the sun and moon, having a distance of 130 degrees, or more, their limbs are brought into contact just at the outside of that wire which is next to the circle, and then examining if it be the same, just at the outside of the other wire. Its being so is the proof of adjustment."

It is with no small pleasure that we have lately examined the progress of Nautical Surveying, as indicated by the recent works of Captains King, Fitzroy, Beechey, Bayfield, Hewitt, Mudge, Belcher, and Denham, in various parts of the globe. The Shetland Islands, by the indefatigable Mr. G. Thomas, of the Investigator, are models of application and apparent accuracy; and the other portions of our own shores are under publication, in a style more creditable to the nation than they have hitherto been.

A very elaborate chart of Lough Neagh, in Ireland, has just been placed before us, which, from the fulness of its details and beauty of its execution, merits particular attention. It is engraved from a survey by Lieut. Thomas Graves, R. N., who now commands the *Mastiff*, in the Archipelago—and is a very creditable specimen of the burin of the well known Messrs. Walker, whose services in hydrography are coeval with its recent advances. This extensive "broad" of water possesses great local interest, and is equally renowned for its produce and, as the name implies, its healing qualities. It will be recollected that it is situated near the centre of the province of Ulster, and that it parts the counties of Londonderry, Antrim, Down, Armagh, and Tyrone. It is fifteen miles long and seven broad, with a periphery of eighty-one miles, and a superficies of about 95,000 English acres. It is not surprising that an inland sea, so celebrated for cures, fish, pebbles, and petrifications, should be honored by superstition; and that various tales should obtain respecting its origin. Of these, the

most accredited is the one which states that the Irish giant, Fin McCoul, took a handful of earth and flung it into the sea. The handful was of such a size, that where it fell it formed the Isle of Man, and the hollow caused by its removal made the basin of Lough Neagh. This, of course, must be true enough, because it has been so written in books; and there can be no doubt that a large town is submerged by its waters, because Moore says—

“On Lough Neagh’s banks as the fisherman strays,  
When the clear cold eve’s declining,  
He sees the round towers of other days  
In the waves beneath him shining.”

The fact that a naval officer was selected to examine this inland lake must not be thought the slightest disparagement to the noble survey of Ireland, so ably conducted by Colonel Colby, of the royal engineers. We have examined, and examined with admiration, some portions of this first rate undertaking, which may safely be said to excel every other piece of Geodesia that has hitherto appeared. The mensuration of the celebrated base line on Hounslow Heath, and its verification on Romney Marsh, by Major General Roy, was esteemed as the finest and most important operation of its kind; whence the dependant net of triangles, though at first intended solely for connecting Greenwich and Paris, was extended over the kingdom, and became known, *par excellence*, as the Grand Trigonometrical Survey. But it was reserved for the scientific skill of Colby—who had himself worked thereon—to reduce those beautiful operations to the second rank of their *genus*, and leave every other description of geographical labors far in the back-ground. Even the publication of the results is superintended by the colonel and his talented officers; and the execution of the maps already completed is as superior to that of the famous *Carte des Chasses*, as the latter was to the recondite productions of Thomas Kitchin, geographer. Besides the singular beauty of the topography, the distinctness and arrangement of the writing are very striking; and we were surprised to find that even this was also by one of the corps, a sergeant of the Sappers and Miners! Here, on the noble scale of six inches to a mile, are given to immediate view, all the grand and minute features of the Sister Isle—hills, vales, rivers, roads, towns, villages, hamlets, churches, mills, mansions, bogs, barrows, antiquities, and, in short, every object of utility or interest, with their various heights, superficial areas, and stratigraphical relations. Such a work is highly creditable to the munificence of Government; and it confers honor upon Colonel Colby and the corps of engineers, and, through them, upon the whole British Army.



**THE SAILOR BOY'S DREAM,**

BY ROBERT BURTS, U. S. N.

How swift time flies! 'tis nineteen years to-day,  
Since first I bade good morn, this world of ours;  
And yet it seems to me but yesterday;  
So fleet of wing have been my youthful hours.  
And I have had my sorrows too; but they,  
Were like the clouds that shade a summer sky;  
The sun's mild beam would melt them all away,  
And leave the space still brighter to the eye.

I will not curse thee, life, for thou hast been,  
A sweet and sunny summer unto me;  
Thy streams were chrystal, and thy fields were green,  
And fruits of gold hung blushing from each tree.  
I will not rail, as some who have grown gray,  
In culling roses on thy happy plain;  
Who, when thy sun, on them had set, would say  
Thy truths were shadows, and thy pleasures vain.

Yes, there are those, who on life's sunny stream,  
Have basked in beauty's fondest, sweetest smile;  
Whose days have glided like a glittering dream,  
While all was glad reality the while.  
Through lands where joys, like dew-drops, shine and fall,  
Their course of life, its smiling way had run,  
But when its current swept them by its wall,  
They fain would scorn the path they would not shun.

Be it mine amid the bowers of earth to rove,  
Free as some river bounding to the main;  
And if at all a slave, be it to love;  
My soul would scorn to wear another chain.  
I may not see as many years again,  
But if they bloom as gay as they bloom now,  
I will front fate without one pang of pain,  
Tho' youth, still faithful, lingered on my brow.

## FOREIGN SELECTIONS.

[From the United Service Gazette, Sept. 12.]

**DRY ROT.**—The report of the committee appointed to investigate Mr. Kyan's patent for the prevention of dry rot, forms a very interesting and important document. The questions involved in the inquiry to which the report refers, may be comprised under the following heads:

1. As to the general efficacy of the principle; namely, the application of a solution of corrosive sublimate to vegetable substances, as a prevention to dry rot.

2. Its power of superceding the usual length of time required for seasoning timber.

3. The expense of the solution in which it is proposed to immerse timber; also, the labor of carrying the plan into operation.

4. The salubrity of the process of preparing timber for ship building and other purposes; its effect upon the health of the people employed to work upon the materials which have thus been prepared; and whether it is *possible* that the quantity of mercury used in the solution could salivate the crew.

On a question of such moment as a means of extending the duration of timber employed for naval purposes, we should be sorry to offer an opinion without first giving our best attention to the subject. We have, therefore, carefully perused the report of the commissioners, and the evidence upon which it is founded; and shall now endeavor to put before our readers a brief and impartial digest of the parliamentary and other papers which have come under our notice.

Mr. Kyan proposes to make a solution consisting of one pound of corrosive sublimate to five gallons of water. A solution of this kind having been prepared, it is proposed that timber be left to soak in it for a week, or more, according to the size of the piece; after which the liquor is pumped off, and the wood removed and dried. It is then said to be 'prepared;' and two or three weeks' seasoning will afterwards be sufficient. Professor Faraday, speaking of the anti-destructive properties of the solution of corrosive sublimate, has observed, in a lecture delivered by him at the Royal Institution (Feb., 1833,) that "every anatomist, and every visitor of an anatomical museum, knows that corrosive sublimate was, and is, used from time to time to prevent the decay of the most delicate organic tissues and parts, even such things as the brain itself, which are liable to putrescence; and by the application of this metallic preparation, they can be prevented from going into decay, and be preserved for any length of time." And he further remarks, that not only may the evil of dry rot be stopped, but the commencement even might be prevented by the application of corrosive sub-

limate, in consequence of the chemical action which takes place between it and those albuminous particles which are considered by the highest authorities to exist in and form the essence of wood. This gentleman is perfectly satisfied of the preservative effects of corrosive sublimate. And Sir Anthony Carlisle, speaking of its antiseptic quality, said, in evidence, "certainly corrosive sublimate must have the effect in my opinion, of preventing, more or less, every sort of dry rot; for wood or sap so empoisoned, would prove very unsuitable for a worm to eat; and the antiseptic efficacy of corrosive sublimate, both on mineral and vegetable matter exposed to putrefaction, is unquestionable." Dr. Birkbeck entertains similar sentiments. We have, therefore, good authorities for believing that corrosive sublimate possesses the property of preserving vegetable substances from decay; but a query arises whether timber immersed as above described, will be penetrated to the interior. The commissioners appear to have considered that in the experiments upon which they founded their report, the mercury had penetrated only to a very limited extent; at the same time, they do not attempt to assert that the facts to which they had directed their attention disproved the possibility of any interior effect. Here, however, a very material question hinges, leaving the subject, at present, in some measure a matter of speculation. Professor Faraday tried a prepared cube of elm, to ascertain whether the solution had penetrated to the centre, and upon close examination he thought there were appearances at the depth of an inch from the surface, but they were doubtful: "beyond that, there were no indications." In a cube of oak, the penetration was not so far as in the cube of elm. And in the cube of fir, the penetration was in the smallest degree. Nevertheless, he thinks that the solution would gradually penetrate into the interior of the timber. It is true that the block of wood placed in the fungus pit at Woolwich, proved to be perfectly sound after five years, exhibiting no internal indications of decay; but as the preparation may have acted as a coating, affording only superficial protection against external influence, it of course remains doubtful how far it would have operated against a tendency to internal decay. Wherever the preparation penetrates we believe it to be efficacious, of which we have abundant proof in the facts relating to the experiments which have been made upon cordage, canvass, calico, linen, muslin, etc. Taking into account the whole of the opinions and facts which have come to our knowledge, we are decidedly of opinion that Mr. Kyan's patent holds out strong inducements to the government to prosecute experiments upon a very liberal scale.

The alleged power of corrosive sublimate in superceding the usual length of time for seasoning timber, appears to us to receive confirmation in the following passage from the report of the commissioners. They say—"three pannels had been prepared purposely to exhibit the comparative shrinking of three pieces of the same kind of deal. The first, which was of unseasoned wood,



had shrunk considerably; the second, which had been seasoned by drying on Messrs. Baker's plan, exhibited no contraction whatever; the third, which had been prepared by Mr. Kyan's process, had shrunk by far the most.

The *expense* of the solution, which is undoubtedly a very important consideration, has been stated to be twenty shillings per load; and it appears, from estimates which have been made of the quantities of timber consumed for ships of the different rates, that a first-rate consumes in her construction about five thousand eight hundred and eighty loads of timber; a second-rate, four thousand three hundred and thirty-nine loads; a third rate, three thousand six hundred loads; a fourth rate, two thousand three hundred and seventy-two loads; a fifth rate, one thousand eight hundred loads; and a sixth-rate, nine hundred and sixty-three loads. The cost at first seems heavy; but if the efficacy of Mr. Kyan's principle be fully established, the charge would be reasonable in proportion to the good it would effect.

The last consideration—namely, the *salubrity* of the process, is deserving of great attention. The commissioners do not conceive that any ill effects have hitherto been produced on the health of the workmen who have used the prepared timber for ship building or other purposes; but they state that persons have, in one or two instances, felt a little nausea in the stomach while mixing the solution with hot water, for which the white of an egg was administered as an antidote. They say, however, that the evidence before them tends to show, that as far as the experiment has been tried (on board the *Samuel Enderby*, completely built of prepared timber; and on board the *John Palmer*, extensively repaired with it in 1833,) the crews have been mentioned as "all well." It is recommended that bread and biscuit should not come in contact with timbers fresh prepared; and it is suggested that in making ropes and sails (being much handled by seamen) the raw material of both should first be submitted to the mercurial solution and then washed, prior to being manufactured. Professor Faraday observes, in reference to the wholesomeness of the atmosphere around prepared articles (having found the saw-dust slightly affect his throat) he has made many experiments, but he does not consider the matter as demonstrated; and his opinion waits for further confirmation, obtained from facts. Dr. Birkbeck considers that ships will be *more* salubrious when built of prepared timber.

We cannot enter more fully into the merits of this question at present, but shall conclude with a few remarks made by Dr. Birkbeck, in his lecture "on the preservation of timber by Kyan's patent for preventing dry rot," because we hold the same opinion. "The application of this discovery may be said as yet to be in its embryo, as the extent to which it may be carried will be better understood when it has been contemplated properly by the public.—It is, therefore, earnestly to be hoped that those who are concerned in the formation and preservation of the British navy, will pay the greatest attention to the subject; that the navy, which is the

pride and bulwark of Great Britain, may be rendered secure when called into active service, from the ravages of that destructive evil which has hitherto cost the country such enormous annual sums."

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*From the same paper of September 19.*

Having descanted somewhat fully last week on Mr. Kyan's patent process for the prevention of dry rot, we shall now, in fulfilment of a former pledge, lay before our readers some general observations on the practice at present pursued to avert decay in the royal navy.

The subject appears to resolve itself under three distinct heads:

1. The means commonly taken to effect the seasoning of timber before it is applied to the purposes of ship-building.

2. The method by which timber is protected during the time the works of a ship are in progress.

3. The practices observed in the ship-building department to preserve a ship from dry rot when built.

Our first consideration, then, will be to explain the means employed to promote any early desiccation of timber employed for naval purposes. This is effected in government yards in two ways, which experience appears to sanction, namely—by protecting timber from sun and rain, and at the same time from a too rapid rush of air; also by immersion.

The timber used in our naval arsenals is principally seasoned by placing it in stacks under sheds, each piece being kept from coming in contact with that which is contiguous to it, by skids, or "dunnage," which is loose wood placed between every two pieces merely to keep them asunder, so as to admit of a free circulation of air. The piles of timber are arranged with reference to the date of the year in which they were received into the dock yard, so that timber of early date may be used first, and so on in succession. Three years' seasoning is the average time allowed for rough and sided timber; but a less period is sufficient for plank. Plank, as well as timber, is stowed upon skids; and in being stacked up, it is placed upon its edge for seasoning, which enables the timber converter to extract any plank from the pile more easily than if the planks were laid flatwise. It is but a crude rule at best, to say that timber in general requires a certain period—and only a certain period for seasoning; because it is obvious that the rapidity with which desiccation goes on will be in direct proportion to the surface exposed, and in an inverse ratio to the cubical content of the piece. If three years be considered the average length of time for seasoning, taking one thing with another, the state of the store at the dock yards should be equal to three years' consumption.

Timber which does not undergo the process of seasoning which we have described, is immersed—sometimes in fresh, sometimes

in salt water; though by far the greater portion of naval timber is treated as explained above. The French, Americans, and Dutch, immerse their timber. The Dutch immerse it six months for every inch in thickness; the French immerse their's in water and in sand also, an experiment which was tried, we believe, some years ago in one of our own dock yards. It has been recommended to bury mast timber in mud as an effectual means of preservation; and there is no doubt but it would answer very well. Timber unquestionably deteriorates by losing its moisture, especially mast timber; but it would extend our remarks to an inconvenient length if we were to attempt to enter into further particulars than the simple process employed for the seasoning of timber before it is applied to the purposes of ship-building.

The second division of the subject refers to the method by which ships are preserved during the progress of building. This is accomplished by erecting roofs over the docks and building-slips, by which the works and the workmen are protected from the rain and the sun; and thus the presence of dry air is continually exerting its tendency to carry off the natural moisture which timber gradually gives out under the influence of an arid atmosphere. Roofs were first erected over docks at Plymouth yard in 1812; and over a building-slip for the first time at Deptford yard, in 1813; since which time their great utility has caused their general introduction in the naval arsenals.

Thirdly; although it is of great importance that every care should be taken to season and preserve timber before it is brought into use for the purposes of ship-building, and during the time that the works of building are carrying on, it is of still greater moment that when so costly a fabric as a ship is complete, no pains should be spared to place her under circumstances most conducive to her long duration. A ship, when placed in ordinary, should float in perfect ease to herself; that is to say, she should be as free as possible from the action of any force which brings a strain upon her fastenings, whereby the fabric, by becoming loosened, is liable to premature decay. This consideration has been most wisely met by a judicious arrangement of ballast; that is, by furnishing ships with their sea-complement of ballast, and by filling their water-tanks, with the view of counteracting the excess of buoyancy which exists at the midship part of all ships (when immersed only to the light-water-line,) compared with the weight of the hull at that part of the ship. And further, it has also been wisely arranged that ships in ordinary be moored from the *third port* from forward, instead of riding from the hawse-holes, which greatly relieves the ship from the weight of the bows, which are always very inadequately supported when a ship is only down to her light-water-line. Cleanliness and ventilation are the next points which particularly merit attention. With respect to the former, it is only to visit any ship in ordinary at either of the sea ports, to satisfy oneself that the commissioners of the dock yards and captains of the ordinary are never unmindful of that essential duty. And as



regards *ventilation*, it seems to us, who have had the best opportunities of forming an opinion on the subject, that nothing can surpass the admirable regulations now in force. In addition to the use of windsails, for conveying air into the holds, there is no part of a ship above the line of flotation that is not exposed in fine weather to a perfect draught of air. Temporary port-lids are fitted to every state of the weather. Openings are formed at both extremities of the vessel, which admit of a free passage of air fore and aft the ship. Parts of bulkheads are kept out of place in the hold, as well as between decks, and every fitment belonging to the ship, both within-board and without-board, which, if fastened, would be liable to promote decay by the contact of two surfaces, is left out of place until the ship is ordered for commission.

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**MANUFACTURE OF GUNPOWDER.**—The following description of gunpowder by an able chemist (Dr. Ure,) will no doubt prove interesting to many members of both services. The author says:

This explosive substance consists of an intimate mixture, in determinate proportions, of saltpetre, charcoal and sulphur; and is better in proportion, every thing else being equal, to the quality of their ingredients. The nitre, in particular, ought to be perfectly refined by successive chrySTALLIZATIONS, and finally freed from adhering water, by proper drying, or by fusion in iron pots at a regulated heat. Nothing can surpass, in these respects, the nitre prepared in the government powder mills at Waltham Abbey. It is tested by adding to its solution in distilled water, nitrate of silver, with which it occasions no perceptible opalescence. The sulphur ought also to be of the finest quality, and purified by skimming or even sublimation, if at all necessary. The charcoal should be newly made; it should burn without having any sensible residuum, be dry, sonorous, light, and easy pulverised. The charcoal for gunpowder is made either of alder, willow or dogwood; the latter being preferred—which are cut into lengths and ignited by iron cylinders. It deserves notice that the proportion of powder used for the several pieces of ordnance by the navy, etc., has been reduced one-third, in consequence of the increased strength of the composition into which this cylinder charcoal enters, compared with that manufactured formerly from charcoal made in pits. The wood before charring is carefully stripped of its bark.

The three ingredients being thus prepared, are ready for manufacturing into gunpowder. They are first separately ground to a fine powder, which is passed through proper sieves, or bolting machines: and, secondly, they are mixed together in proper proportions. These do not seem to be definitively determined, for they differ in different establishments of great respectability as is shown by the following table:

	<i>Nitre.</i>	<i>Charcoal.</i>	<i>Sulphur.</i>
Royal Mills at Waltham Abbey,	75	15	10
French, for war, - - -	75	12.5	12.5
—— for Sportsmen, - - -	78	12	10
—— for Mining, - - -	65	15	20
Chaptal's proportions, - - -	77	14	9
Chinese ditto, - - -	75.7	14.4	9.9
Mr. Napier's ditto, - - -	80	15	5

Thirdly : the composition is then sent to the gunpowder mill, which consists of two edgestones of a calcareous nature, turning by means of a shaft on a bedstone of the same nature, which give no sparks, as sandstone would be apt to do. On this bedstone the composition is spread, and moistened with as small a quantity of water as will, in conjunction with the revolving stones, bring it into a proper body of cake, but not of paste. The line of contact of the edgestone is constantly preceded by a scraper, which goes round with the wheel, constantly scraping up the cake and turning it into the track of the stone. From fifty to sixty pounds are usually worked at once in each mill wheel. When the cake has been thoroughly incorporated, it is sent to the corning-house, where a separate mill is employed to form the cake into grains or corns. Fourthly: here it is first pressed into a hard, firm mass, then broken into small lumps; after which the graining is executed, by placing these lumps in sieves, on each side of which is laid a disc of *lignum vitæ*. The sieves are made of parchment skins, perforated with a multitude of round holes. Several such sieves are fixed in a frame, which, by proper machinery, has such a motion given to it, as to make the *lignum vitæ* runner in each sieve move round with considerable velocity, so as to break the lumps of the cake, and force the substances through the sieves, forming grains of several sizes. These granular particles are afterwards separated from the finer dust by proper sieves and reels. Fifthly: the corned powder is next hardened, and the rougher edges taken off, by being revolved in a close reel or cask, turning rapidly on its axis.— This vessel somewhat resembles a barrel-churn; it should be half-full at each operation, and has frequently square bars inside, parallel to its axis, to aid the polish by attrition. Sixthly: the gunpowder is now dried, which is done generally by a steam-heat, or by transmitting a body of air slightly heated in another chamber, over canvass shelves covered with the damp gunpowder.

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LIEUTENANT RODGERS'S PATENT ANCHOR.—The small-palmed patent anchor, invented by Lieutenant Rogers, is daily becoming more and more popular; and we should suppose from the testimonials we have seen, and the opinion we have arrived at, after carefully considering the subject, that it will, ere long, be tried upon a liberal scale in the Royal Navy. Within a period of about eighteen months the inventor has disposed of about four hundred

anchors upon his principle; the greater part of which have been used by merchant shipping, some by revenue cruisers, and some by yachts; and the trials which have been made with them, have in every instance, produced most favorable reports. The patentee appears to have taken more than ordinary pains to put the merits of his invention fairly to the test, and the results seem to verify the correctness of his views.

We believe that the advantages of the patent small-palmed anchor may be enumerated as follows:

1. An additional power of holding in all kinds of *anchoring* ground.
2. It takes hold more quickly than the common anchor, and is not liable to get "*shod*" and rise out of the ground.
3. It is more easily "*fished*," and is more convenient for stowing.
4. It possesses greater facility for stocking or unstocking, in consequence of the stock being in one piece.
5. It is altogether a stronger anchor, in consequence of nearly *one-eighth* of the weight of the anchor being saved out of the palms, and diffused over the shank and arms.
6. It possesses additional strength in consequence of its peculiar sectional form, and the disposition of the bars of iron which compose the shank and arms.
7. It is more easy to weigh, in consequence of the shank being longer than usual in proportion to the arms.
8. By the general adoption of the small-palms, the various anchorages would not be so much broken and ploughed up, as is the case with the large palms now in use.

Now we would not advance these opinions without good authority, and we derive our authority not theoretically, but from authenticated documents, which carry the strongest evidence with them, and which we should feel happy to allow any one to peruse at our office, who may take sufficient interest in the subject. The certificates submitted to us for perusal are far too voluminous to quote; but we have, nevertheless, transcribed into another part of the paper, resolutions passed by two naval societies, expressive of their opinion on the small-palmed anchor; also a letter from Captain Bowles stating the result of trials made in the revenue service.

We know not whether Lieutenant Rodgers has the misfortune not to possess the good-will of the individual members of the Board of Admiralty, or whether he has omitted so to bring his improved anchor under the notice of the Board, as to put his invention in a fair way of being properly brought forward: but we hope that whatever may be his individual position he will neglect no opportunity of giving the greatest publicity to his meritorious invention. He shall never want our assistance to promote his object, while we believe it to be really useful; and we do not think that the present Board of Admiralty are disposed to reject any plans which they can conceive to be beneficial to the service.—*United Service Gazette*.



## FIRE ARMS—KOPTIPTEUR.

In the Paris *Spectateur Militaire* for July, 1835, we find a description of a new invention for firing guns, intended as a substitute for the old fashioned flint and steel, and the recent application of percussion caps. By the assistance of a military friend, who is conversant with the technicalities, (which we confess we are not,) we have attempted a translation. Some of the terms cannot well be rendered in English, and we have therefore in those cases added the French words.

Mr. Heurteloup has recently called the attention of the Royal Academy of Sciences to the application which he has made of the following property possessed by the fulminating powder.

If fulminating percussion powder is introduced into a tube of soft metal, and the tube thus filled is submitted to the action of a sharp blade, (that of a knife for instance,) explosion does not take place; if, on the contrary, it is struck with a flat surface, explosion is the consequence.

The following is Mr. Heurteloup's application. He has made an instrument containing a blade and hammer; this instrument, which he calls *koptipteur*, (from *κοπτεω* to cut, and *τυπτεω* to strike,) is, with a fulminating tube, fixed to the but end (*crosse*) of a gun, in such a manner as to furnish a continual supply of priming. The blade divides the tube without igniting the powder, the hammer causes the explosion; after which the tube containing the fulminating priming is pushed forward, when it is again exposed to the action of the instrument, and by thus continuing the process, the fire may be repeated a great many times.

General Rogniat, appointed by the Academy to make a report on the *koptipteur*, after describing it, thus continues:

"This discovery may be adapted to fire arms with so much the more advantage, because of its being very simple; and it is under this view, especially, that it appears as deserving the attention of the Academy. You know, gentlemen, that when powder was first introduced into metallic tubes, great or small, in order to throw projectiles to a distance, contrivances were resorted to, to communicate fire instantaneously and with certainty to the charge, in such a way as not to weaken it, and without deranging the aim. Well, this trifling mechanical problem, after several centuries of trials, has not yet been perfectly solved. At first, fire was communicated to the charge by touching the priming with a lighted match, and this rude method is still in use in firing cannon; afterwards, recourse was had to the guns with wheels fixed to their pans, (*fusil à rouet*;) and, lastly, to the *fusil à batterie*. This last, the only one still in use in our armies, is, as is known, provided with a piece of flint which strikes a piece of steel, thereby detaching particles, ignited by the heat caused by the shock, which fall in sparks upon the priming; but it often happens that the detached particles do not ignite, or that the sparks fall upon the powder

without setting it on fire, especially in damp weather; or if it take fire, communicating but slowly causes the gun to hang fire. Besides, the motions of opening the pan and priming consume time, which is so precious in war, when he who fires the greatest number of rounds in a given time, has an indisputable advantage. In our days our most scientific gunsmiths have appreciated the advantage to be derived by means of fulminating powder to solve the difficulty. They have invented the percussion gun, to communicate fire to the charge with as much rapidity as security, a piece of mechanism which appears satisfactory to the sportsman; military men, however, still hesitate to adopt the invention, fearing that the soldier, in consequence of the emotion produced by the heat of battle, might not properly place the cap on the nipple, (*cheminée*,) and that the subtle fire ejected from the fulminating powder, might create confusion in the ranks; moreover, this process would occasion as much loss of time as the one now in use; therefore, the troops of no European power have, as yet, been armed with the percussion gun.

"The discovery of Mr. Heurteloup will enable our skilful armorers to solve the problem in the most satisfactory manner. We have already seen, in the hands of the inventor, a gun which has appeared to us to perform its functions very well, by means of this new process. The hammer ordinarily used in percussion guns has been substituted by the *koptipteur*; a tube filled with fulminating powder of the length of three or four *decimètres*, (11 8-10ths+or 14 7-10ths+inches, English measure,) has been fixed in the breech of the gun, (on a *logé dans la culasse*,) which tube is so arranged that every time the *koptipteur* is set, (*qu'on arme le koptipteur*,) it advances a few millimètres (a millimètre is equal to .039+of an inch, English measure,) by a very simple mechanism, its extremity, or end, resting on the nipple, where the *koptipteur* at a single blow cuts it, strikes it, and produces the explosion. This successive play of the machine operates with great rapidity, since no other movement is necessary but that of cocking the gun. The tube is of sufficient length to furnish eighty primings; more than enough for the number of cartridges which a soldier carries in his box. Lastly, the ejection of the fulminating sparks, which might incommode the soldier in the ranks, has been obviated by enveloping the nipple in a metallic box, which prevents their spreading; this is very easily done in the new process, where the priming places itself on the nipple by an interior mechanism, and not with the fingers, as in the common percussion gun.

"In conclusion," says General Rogniat, "we think that the discovery of Mr. Heurteloup may be of great utility in its application to arms of war, (*armes de guerre*,) and it is on that account that we recommend it to the Academy."

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In the foregoing article, respecting the *Koptipteur*, it is mentioned that no European army had yet been provided with percus-

sion guns. By the following it will be seen that one regiment of the Austrian Chasseurs has been furnished with the percussion guns, and upon trial finds them so decidedly superior that the old ones have been pronounced useless :

AUSTRIAN ARMY.—PERCUSSION CAPS.—A change is shortly to take place in the military uniform, which has been found so narrow as to interfere with that freedom of movement so necessary to a soldier. The pay is to be increased, and the custom of allowing only one bed for two soldiers is to be abolished. Another innovation will shortly take place—namely, the introduction of percussion guns for the use of the infantry. No doubt these guns, as heretofore manufactured, were subject to various objections; but an artist of Prague (M. Courode) has found the means of rendering them almost perfect, and most satisfactory results are expected from this invention. These guns have lately been tried by the sixth battalion of Chasseurs, and it was evident to all present, that a body of troops armed with percussion guns would, as regards firing, do as much execution as a force double in number armed with old fashioned muskets. The Chasseurs, after using the percussion guns, declared the old ones quite ridiculous, and now hold them in the greatest contempt.—*United Service Gazette*.

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THE NEW NORTH CHANNEL.—Amongst the numerous improvements and facilities which have recently been afforded to the mercantile community of Liverpool, none rank higher than the adoption of the north channel, by which vessels can enter and leave the harbor almost at any period of the tide, instead of waiting for water to cross the bar in the rock channel, as formerly.—This new entrance, although known for a number of years to several individuals, has only been brought into general use within the last few months. Great credit is due to the dock trustees, as well as to Lieut. Denham, for the accurate survey, and buoying and lighting of the channel, which now renders the passage in and out of the port an affair of comparative ease and safety.



**THE ONTARIO'S RETURN.**

BY ROBERT BURTS, U. S. N.

The winds are sweeping, fresh and fair they blow ;  
The anchor 's up ; the stainless duck on high  
Falls from each yard, like flakes of driven snow,  
From the rude peaks of some ungenial sky.  
Then yields the gallant ship unto the wind,  
And bounding forward through the foaming sea,  
The deep blue mountains of Brazil behind,  
She nears that land, of earth the blest and free.

A hundred hearts with happy hopes beat high,  
As on the good ship speeds before the blast ;  
And joy looks sparkling from the sea boy's eye ;  
And dreams of home come then upon him fast.  
And some brood o'er a mother's speechless joy,  
A father's rough embrace, a sister's kiss ;  
The lisping accents of their little boy,  
And oh ! of one there's hopes of brighter bliss.

When sunk that lofty ship her native shore,  
Full many a snowy bosom heaved with grief ;  
And cheeks were wet, and hearts were sadly sore,  
And tears fell then, but they gave no relief.  
And her long absence may have wrung forth more  
From sterner hearts than throb in woman's breast ;  
Such tears as wither in the heart's own core,  
And rack where all without doth seem at rest.

But soon those tears will all be smiled away ;  
Or, if indeed they fall, 'twill be as rain,  
In April time ; the sun's resplendent ray  
Shall gild each drop ere it be shed in vain.  
And joy shall laugh from every eye that laves,  
And trouble's clouds shall all sink down the sky,  
And peace will ride like Cynthia on the waves,  
And gild the dangers that have passed us by.

## MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, Oct. 31, 1835.

ORDER, }  
No. 80. }

I. PROMOTIONS and APPOINTMENTS in the Army since the publication of "Order" No. 38, of July 1st, 1835.

## I. PROMOTIONS.

## REGIMENT OF DRAGOONS.

Second Lieutenant John S. Van Derveer, to be First Lieutenant, 15th August, 1835, vice Hamilton, cashiered.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Henry Turner, to be Second Lieutenant, 15th August, 1835, vice Van Derveer, promoted, (brevet 1st July, 1834.)

## FIRST REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

First Lieutenant Lemuel Gates, to be Captain, 1st October, 1835, vice Henry Whiting, resigned.

Second Lieutenant Miner Knowlton, to be First Lieutenant, 23d July, 1835, vice Palmer, deceased.

Second Lieutenant John F. Kennedy, to be First Lieutenant, 1st October, 1835, vice Gates, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant John F. Lee, to be Second Lieutenant, 23d July, 1835, vice Knowlton, promoted, (brevet 1st July, 1834.)

Brevet Second Lieutenant Charles B. Chalmers, to be Second Lieutenant, 31st August, 1835, vice Harris, resigned, (brevet 1st July, 1834.)

Brevet Second Lieutenant Louis A. B. Walbach, to be Second Lieutenant, 1st October, 1835, vice Kennedy, promoted, (brevet 1st July, 1834.)

## SECOND REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Charles J. Whiting, to be Second Lieutenant, 10th September, 1835, vice Prentiss, resigned, (brevet 1st July, 1835.)

Brevet Second Lieutenant George M. Legate, to be Second Lieutenant, 31st October, 1835, vice Vance, resigned, (brevet 1st July, 1835.)

## THIRD REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Robert R. Mudge, to be Second Lieutenant, 31st August, 1835, vice Bryant, resigned, (brevet 1st July, 1834.)

## FOURTH REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Alexander E. Shiras, to be Second Lieutenant, 6th October, 1835, vice Petigru, deceased, (brevet 1st July, 1833.)

## THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

First Lieutenant Otis Wheeler, to be Captain, 31st October, 1835, vice Loring, resigned.

Second Lieutenant Nathaniel C. Macrae, to be First Lieutenant, 31st October, 1835, vice Wheeler, promoted.

Brevet Second Lieutenant George P. Field, to be Second Lieutenant, 25th July, 1835, vice Baldwin, deceased, (brevet 1st July, 1834.)

Brevet Second Lieutenant Cary H. Fry, to be Second Lieutenant, 31st August, 1835, vice Legate, resigned (brevet 1st July, 1834.)

Brevet Second Lieutenant Thomas O. Barnwell, to be Second Lieutenant, 31st October, 1835, vice Macrae, promoted, (brevet 1st July, 1834.)

## FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Benjamin Alvord, to be Second Lieutenant, 21st July, 1835, vice Manning, deceased, (brevet 1st July, 1833.)

## FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Thomas Stockton, to be Second Lieutenant, 31st August, 1835, vice Scott, resigned, (brevet 1st July, 1831.)

## II. APPOINTMENTS.

## STAFF.

Brevet Major Henry Whiting, Captain in the first regiment of Artillery, to be Quartermaster, 23d September, 1835.

Charles M. Hitchcock, to be Assistant Surgeon, 17th August, 1835.

William W. Hoxton, to be Assistant Surgeon, 24th August, 1835.

## REGIMENT OF DRAGOONS.

Cadet Abram R. Johnston, to be Brevet Second Lieutenant, 1st July, 1835, to take rank next below Brevet Second Lieutenant Hanly.

## THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Cadet Hugh McLeod, to be Brevet Second Lieutenant, 18th September, 1835.

## FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Cadet Henry Prince, to be Brevet Second Lieutenant, 18th September, 1835.

## III. CASUALTIES.

## RESIGNATIONS.

*Captains.*

Henry Whiting, 1st Artillery, 1st October, 1835.

Henry H. Loring, 3d Infantry, 31st October, 1835.

*Second Lieutenants.*

David B. Harris, 1st Artillery, 31st August, 1835.

Henry E. Prentiss, 2d Artillery, 10th September, 1835.

Joseph C. Vance, 2d Artillery, 31st October, 1835.

William Bryant, 3d Artillery, 31st August, 1835.

Stephen B. Legate, 3d Infantry, 31st August, 1835.

Moses Scott, 5th Infantry, 31st August, 1835.

*Brevet Second Lieutenants.*

James N. Ellis, 1st Artillery, 19th October, 1835.

Montgomery Blair, 2d Artillery, 10th October, 1835.

Herman Houpt, 3d Infantry, 30th September, 1835.

Lucius Bradbury, 7th Infantry, 1st October, 1835.

## DEATHS.

Brevet Lieutenant Colonel William Linnard, Quartermaster, 20th September, 1835.

First Lieutenant William Palmer, 1st Artillery, 23d July, 1835.

Second Lieutenant Charles Petigru, 4th Artillery, 6th October, 1835.

Second Lieutenant Alexander G. Baldwin, 3d Infantry, 25th July, 1835.

Second Lieutenant David A. Manning, 4th Infantry, 21st July, 1835.

Assistant Surgeon Foster Swift, 18th August, 1835.

Assistant Surgeon Robert French, 13th August, 1835.

## REVOKED.

Charles Little, Military Storekeeper, 31st August, 1835.

## CASHIERED.

First Lieutenant James W. Hamilton, Dragoons, 15th August, 1835.

2. The officers *promoted* and *appointed*, will report accordingly, and join their proper stations and companies, without delay; those on detached service, or acting under special orders and instructions, will report, by *letter*, to their respective colonels.

## IV. "RULE TO BE OBSERVED IN ORDINARY CASES OF PROMOTION."

3. "If a field officer, the officer *promoted* will join the regiment and station of his predecessor; if a company officer, he will join the particular company where the vacancy to which he succeeds may have occurred."

By order of

ALEXANDER MACOMB,  
Major General, Commanding in Chief:  
ROGER JONES,  
Adjutant General.



## TRANSFERS.

Brevet Second Lieutenant James H. Stokes, of the 2d regiment of Artillery, transferred to the 4th Artillery.

Brevet Second Lieutenant William H. Betts, of the 7th regiment of Infantry, transferred to the 1st regiment of Artillery.

Brevet Major D. Wilcox, of the fifth infantry, senior captain of his regiment on duty in the line, is assigned to duty as field officer of the regiment, during the absence of the lieutenant colonel on recruiting service.

Captain A. Talcott of the engineer corps, has returned to Philadelphia from the survey of the boundary line between Ohio and Michigan. The following officers have been directed to report to Captain T. for duty, temporarily connected with the recent survey:

Lieutenants E. C. Ross, of the fourth and J. R. Irwin, of the first artillery. Brevet Second Lieutenants A. Herbert, first artillery; C. J. Whiting, second artillery; H. M. Naglee, fifth infantry.

Lieutenant W. T. Stockton, second artillery, detailed, temporarily, for topographical duty in Florida.

Lieutenant John Williamson, first artillery, assigned to ordnance duty, and to the command of Apalachicola Arsenal, *vice* Petigru, deceased.

A furlough for six months has been granted to Lieutenant R. P. Parrott, of the third artillery, in consequence of which he has been relieved from ordnance duty.

Lieutenant J. W. Barry, of the first artillery, appointed assistant quartermaster, *vice* Major H. Whiting, appointed quartermaster.

Major Gardner's company A, of the fourth artillery, has been transferred from Fort Monroe to Fort Washington.

Lieutenant Joseph R. Smith has been appointed adjutant of the second regiment of infantry, *vice* Lieutenant J. S. Gallagher, who has resigned his staff appointment.

*Changes in the stations of Assistant Surgeons.*

T. Henderson, from West Point to Fort McHenry.

W. W. Hoxton, from Fort Moultrie to West Point.

W. A. Berry, from Fort Macon to Fort Moultrie.

G. F. Turner, (on being relieved at Fort Mackinac,) to Castle Pinckney.

M. C. Leavenworth, to report at New Orleans for duty until further orders, instead of proceeding to Key West.

R. Clarke from Fort Brady to Fort Gratiot, to relieve Assistant Surgeon Worrell.

S. P. Moore, on duty at Fort Leavenworth, ordered to Fort Des Moines, to relieve Assistant Surgeon Wright. When relieved, Dr. Wright will repair to Fort Howard.

A detachment of seventy-one recruits left the eastern depot on the 29th September, under charge of Lieutenant D. S. Herring, third artillery, destined for Forts Crawford and Snelling; this number will be increased to one hundred and six men by accessions on the route, from the different recruiting stations. Lieutenant Gardenier, first infantry, will accompany the detachment as far as Buffalo, and then return to his post. Surgeon E. Macomb will join it at Albany, and accompany it as far as Fort Crawford, from whence he will proceed to join his station at Fort Leavenworth.

Captain George D. Ramsay, of the ordnance corps, sailed from New York on the 1st October in the packet ship St. James for London.

The commandants of Fort Wood, Pike, Morgan and Pickens, are directed to have their respective companies in readiness to join the troops in Florida, under Brig. Gen. Clinch, should the service with which he is charged render it necessary, in his opinion, to increase the force in that quarter.

In the event of the troops being withdrawn from the garrisons above mentioned, Lt. Col. Twiggs of the 4th infantry is directed to order one of the companies of his command to occupy Forts Wood and Pike.

Greenleaf's Point, Washington city, has been constituted a military post, and the command assigned to Brevet Major Mason, of the 1st artillery.

Capt. C. Wharton has been ordered to open a rendezvous at New York for the dragoons.

Fifty recruits have been ordered from the Eastern Recruiting Department to Fort King, Florida.

#### RESIGNATIONS.

Second Lieut. Joseph C. Vance, second artillery, to take effect 31st Oct.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Montgomery Blair, second artillery 10th October.

2d Lieut. Geo. Fetterman, 3d artillery, to take effect 31st May, 1836.

### NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

*Changes, Notices, &c., as ascertained at the Department, during the month of October, 1835.*

Vessels attached to the different Foreign Stations, viz :

**MEDITERRANEAN.**—Ship of the Line Delaware—frigates Potomac and Constitution—sloop John Adams—schooner Shark.

**WEST INDIES.**—Frigate Constellation—sloops Vandalia and St. Louis—schooner Grampus.

**COAST OF BRAZIL.**—Sloops Erie and Ontario.

**PACIFIC.**—Frigate Brandywine—sloops Vincennes and Fairfield—Schooners Dolphin and Boxer.

#### NOTICES.

**MEDITERRANEAN.**—Ship of the Line Delaware, Captain Nicolson, bearing the broad pendant of Commodore Patterson, arrived at Palermo, the 12th of August—twelve days from Malta.

Frigate Constitution, Commodore Elliott, arrived at Gibraltar, 11th September—twenty-three days from Sandy Hook—all well.

**WEST INDIES.**—Sloop St. Louis, Captain Rousseau, was still at Pensacola, the 14th October, but to sail soon for St. Bartholomews.

Sloop Vandalia, Captain Webb, sailed from Pensacola for St. Bartholomews, on the 8th Oct. with directions to touch at Havana on her way.

Schr. Grampus is still at Norfolk, undergoing repairs, to return to the West Indies as soon as they are completed.

Frigate Constellation, Commodore Dallas, sailed from Norfolk for the West Indies, the 8th Oct.

**COAST OF BRAZIL.**—Sloop Erie, Commodore Renshaw, arrived at Bahia, the 2d September—10 days from Rio—all well. Still at Bahia, 10th Sept., but to sail probably the next day for Pernambuco.

Sloop Ontario, Capt. Salter, sailed from Rio for the Island of St. Thomas, the 22d August.

Sloop Natchez, Captain Zantzinger, arrived at New York, the 3d October—35 days from Bahia.

**PACIFIC.**—No return from this station of later date than was contained in the last report.

#### THE MAILS,

For the Mediterranean will be made up at the Department on the 10th and 25th of each month, to be sent via New York. And for

The Pacific, the 6th of each month, to be forwarded by the packet, as usual, on the 10th, from New York, via Kingston, Jamaica.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, }  
Oct. 31, 1835. }

**MEDITERRANEAN.**—Extract of a letter to the Secretary of the Navy from Commodore Daniel T. Patterson, dated U. S. SHIP DELAWARE,

*Palermo, August 12, 1835.*

"I am happy to say the officers and crews of the whole squadron are enjoying an almost unprecedented state of health. Twenty-four only are on our sick list to-day. Every case slight, and none who could not go to his quarters if required."

A letter has been received per brig Magnet, arrived at Boston, dated on board the U. S. Ship Delaware, Palermo, August 11, at which time all were well on board. The Delaware was to sail in three or four days for Naples, to take Commodore Patterson's family on board, after which she would proceed to Port Mahon, where it was hoped they would find the relief frigate Constitution.—In that event they would immediately sail for the United States. The U. S. ship John Adams was in company with the Delaware.

A duel took place on the 7th August at Gergenti, between Lieutenant David R. Stewart, and Acting Lieutenant Thomas Turner, both of the Delaware. The former was mortally wounded in the breast and died the next day; the latter was severely wounded, but recovered.

Extract of a letter to the Secretary of the Navy from Commodore Jesse D. Elliott, dated U. S. Ship CONSTITUTION,

*Gibraltar, Sept. 11, 1835.*

"I have the honor to inform you that the Constitution arrived and anchored at this port this afternoon, after a passage of twenty-three days from Sandy Hook.

"This ship sustains her high character for sailing. The officers and crew are well, and all is peace and harmony on board."

**WEST INDIES.**—The U. S. frigate Constellation, bearing the broad pendant of Commodore Dallas, bound to the West Indies, sailed from Norfolk on the 8th Oct., to touch at Trinidad de Cuba.

The following is a list of her officers:—

*Commodore*—Alexander J. Dallas. *Lieutenants*—Edmond Byrne, John L. Ball, Stephen Johnston, Gurden C. Ashton, C. H. Kennedy, George M. Bache. *Fleet Surgeon*—Leonard Osborne. *Acting Sailingmaster*—Raphael Semmes, Jr. *Lieut. of Marines*—Nathaniel L. Waldron. *Purser*—John de Bree.—*Assistant Surgeons*—Samuel C. Lawrason, William W. Valk. *Passed Midshipmen*—William Chandler, James K. Bowie, John F. Borden, Roger Perry. *Midshipmen*—James M. Frailey, Stephen Dod, John W. D. Ford, William Pope, James H. Strong, Lewis C. Sartori, Samuel A. Turner, William B. Whiting, John O. Wilson, Wm. S. Williamson, John W. Taylor, John S. Booth, E. T. Shubrick, Francis P. Hoban, William May, Richard H. Lowndes, James A. Doyle, George Wickham, William B. Beverly. *Captain's Clerk*—Jacob Martin, Jr. *Boatswain*—Charles Mathews. *Gunner*—Samuel G. City. *Carpenter*—John O. Butler. *Sailmaker*—Benjamin Crow. *Passengers*—Edward Watmough, Esq., U. S. Consul to Trinidad de Cuba, and family.

*To join the squadron on the Pensacola station:—*

*Lieutenant*—Levin M. Powell. *Surgeon*—William Plumstead.

The St. Louis and Vandalia were expected to have sailed from Pensacola, about the 5th Oct. for St. Barts, to await the arrival of the Constellation.

**BRAZIL.**—A letter from an officer of the U. S. ship *Ontario*, to his friend in Charleston, S. C., dated Rio, August 18th, says: "We are ordered to sail immediately for St. Thomas, on the coast of Africa, to get the money from the governor, who was bribed by the Spanish pirates, recently hung at Boston."

Purser W. A. Bloodgood, late of the schooner Enterprize, has been ordered to duty on board the Erie.

Captain J. Percival and Purser G. C. Cooper, late of the Erie, have returned to the United States.

The U. S. ship Natchez, Captain J. P. Zantzinger, arrived at New York on the 2d Oct., in thirty-five days from Bahia. The following is a list of the officers of the Natchez:



*Commander*—J. P. Zantzinger, Esq. *Lieutenants*—W. W. McKean, A. B. Pinkham, J. D. Knight, S. Barron. *Lieut. Marines*—H. N. Crabb. *Surgeon*—S. Moseley. *Assistant Surgeon*—J. A. Lockwood. *Purser*—S. P. Todd. *Acting Master*—J. A. Russ. *Professor of Mathematics*—J. C. Freemont. *Midshipmen*—N. Reeder, T. Dade, W. D. Hurst, E. Jenkins, J. P. B. Adams, E. J. De Haven, O. H. Berryman, J. J. Almy, T. F. Davis, E. G. Parrott, W. T. Smith, F. E. Baker, R. P. Lovell. *Boatswain*—W. Burgini. *Gunner*—D. Kelley. *Carpenter*—F. Russ. *Sailmaker*—J. Reese. *Captain's Clerk*—W. Freeman. *Passengers*—Lieutenants J. E. Bispham, and L. B. Newell.—W. Peterson, carpenter.

**PACIFIC.**—No advices during the past month.

#### RESIGNATION.

Alexander C. Blount, Midshipman, 19 October.

#### MARINE CORPS.

*Changes in the Roster of the Marine Corps since June, 1835.*

Lieutenant Col. R. D. Wainwright, Navy Yard, D. C., and executive officer at the barracks, head quarters.

Captain Levi Twiggs, under orders for Gosport, Va., as the commanding officer of that post.

First Lieutenant Richard Douglas, Baltimore, Maryland, recruiting service.

First Lieutenant Job G. Williams, Philadelphia, recruiting service.

First Lieutenant Horatio N. Crabb, on leave of absence, Philadelphia.

First Lieutenant Henry W. Fowler, head quarters.

First Lieutenant Thomas L. C. Watkins, Albany, N. Y., recruiting service.

First Lieutenant N. S. Waldron, frigate Constellation.

Second Lieutenant Thomas T. Sloan, New York.

Second Lieutenant John T. Sprague, on leave of absence, under surgeon's certificate.

Second Lieutenant Lafayette Searcy, under orders to Pensacola, W. F.

Second Lieutenant William L. Young, Gosport, Va.

Second Lieutenant Josiah Watson, Philadelphia, date of appointment 21st July, 1835.

Second Lieutenant Thomas M. W. Young, died at New York, July 7, 1835.—October 23d, 1835.

#### MARRIAGES.

In Washington, on the 1st Oct., Major TRUEMAN CROSS, Quartermaster U. S. Army, to Miss MARGARET VAN KLEEK, daughter of L. Van Kleek, Esq. late of Albany, N. Y.

In New York on the 7th Sept., Passed Midshipman EDWARD C. WARD, U. S. Navy, to Miss ANNE HERRING, eldest daughter of James Herring, Esq.

In New York on the 1st Oct., Lieut. ALEX. SLIDELL, U. S. Navy, to CATHARINER ALEXANDE, daughter of Morris Robinson, Esq.

At Brentwood, near Washington, on the 20th Oct. Passed Mid. JOSEPH C. WALSH, of the U. S. Navy, to Miss MARY, eldest daughter of the late Hon. Joseph Pearson.

In Washington, on the 22d Oct. Passed Mid. HORACE N. HARRISON, U. S. Navy, to REBECCA SOMERVILLE, youngest daughter of the late Frederick Lindenberger, of Baltimore.

#### DEATHS.

In Westchester county, N. Y., Lieut. HENRY J. AUCHMUTY, of the Navy, aged 31.

At Norfolk, Va. on the 25th Sept., Mrs. JANE E. PORTER, wife of Lt. W. D. Porter, of the Navy.

On the 6th Oct. Lt. CHAS. PETIGRU, of the 4th arty. on ordnance duty, superintending the construction of the Appalachicola Arsenal, near Chattahoochee, Florida.

At Norfolk on the 17th Oct. MARGARET ELIZABETH, daughter of the late John P. Tuttle, Lieut. U. S. Navy, and grand-daughter of Commodore James Barron, aged 10 years.

At Pensacola, on the 14th Oct., Capt. WOLCOTT CHAUNCEY, commandant of the Navy Yard at that place.